

Life Group Notes 25.10.20

The Compassion of Jesus

What did God speak to you about on Sunday? What can you remember from Tom's message?

Jesus loves the lost, those rejected, marginalised, left out and even hated by society. We mustn't snub people for how they appear or behave, but love them as Christ loves them, pointing them to Him who came to save the lost.

Read Luke 15:1 - Why didn't the pharisees draw near to Jesus?

The pharisees believed they were righteous before God because of how strict their following of the law was.

- **Read Galatians 3:11**

We are not pharisees, but do we have the same tendencies?

We are not tax collectors, but how was their attitude acceptable to Jesus?

For the host: we need to remind people that we all have a natural tendency to think we are good, but the only good in us is Jesus and we can only draw close to him if we accept this.

Jesus compared himself to a shepherd, what does this say about Him?

Read:

- Isaiah 53:6

- **Jeremiah 3:15**

- **Psalm 23**

How is the image of a shepherd comforting? Maybe it isn't?! What is God saying about the character of a good shepherd, and how does Jesus demonstrate this?

What does this mean for us, the sheep?

Jesus loved the marginalised. Who are they today?

Spend some time as a group discussing how we should show the compassion of Jesus to the group.

To people outside the church:- Jesus is not put off by their Sin but wants them to come to him

To people inside the church:- Jesus wants to transform their life and we as brothers and sisters should be graceful with each other

Discuss your work, family and wider social circles. Who are the marginalised? Who is excluded? Who thinks the church hates them?

Tom Wright said “the real challenge..... is: what would we have to do, in the visible, public world, if we were to make people ask the questions to which stories like these are the answer”

Discuss

Jesus came not for the found, but for the lost. Not for the righteous, but for the sinner.

Spend some time in prayer for our own heart towards God, and for the lost and marginalised around us.