

This week, Pastor Andy presents part three in his four part series on "Caring For Humanity". Andy points out that in today's world, just as in the days Jesus walked the earth; there are multitudes of people with needs. Jesus always responds to those in need with compassion. Other people do not. There are many "justifications" for not showing compassion and Andy discusses the six major reasons people justify failing to have compassion of others.

Some of the reasons you may use to excuse yourself from showing compassion to those in need around you are the following. The fast pace of the world tends to demand that you force more and more into your day in order to "keep up". The next appointment crowds out the moment you might take to minister to someone else. In other words, you are "too busy". If you are not too busy, you may not want to allow yourself to be vulnerable to someone else. You may be afraid that you will be hurt or used by them. You may have a problem with immaturity. You do not see any value in helping someone else unless you can somehow benefit directly from it yourself. You may suffer from misplaced priorities and the needs of other people just are not that important to you. You may think that you have no needs yourself and so you cannot conceive that others have needs that you do not. You may use any of these excuses or a combination of them but the truth is that, as a believer, you have no excuse for not having compassion for someone else.

Jesus has made His dwelling place inside each believer. His prayer for you in John 17 is that you be one with Him as He is with the Father. The Bible tells us that our life is "hid with Christ". What He does is what you should be doing. He wants you to have a clear mission for your life. He wants to use your hands to do His work. As you make the love of Christ your priority, you will become more compassionate towards the needs of people. Are you willing to take the risk and to involve yourself and allow yourself to be compassionate? If you want to see God move, you have to move from the old familiar ways and follow Him to new places of service. Where will you start today?