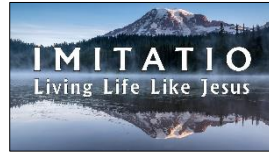


The Compassionate Life

Luke 4:14-21

Emily Mitchell

February 6, 2022

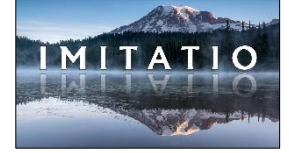


NOTES

The Compassionate Life

Luke 4:14-21

Suggested Questions for Individual Study or Group Discussion*



- In verse 18, Jesus says that he has been anointed “to proclaim good news to the poor.” What might the poor receive as good news (what does it sound like, look like)? How might good news to the poor differ from good news for the middle class or the wealthy?
- In *The Message*, the Eugene Peterson paraphrase, Jesus announces that the Spirit empowers him “to set the burdened and battered free” (in NIV, it’s “to set the oppressed free”). How have you experienced or witnessed Christ freeing those who are burdened, battered, or oppressed?
- Think about both personal and collective/systemic forms of oppression. What are some historic and contemporary examples of Christians who have followed Jesus to bring freedom to groups of oppressed peoples?
- Richard Foster asserts that, after the Holiness Tradition, the Social Justice stream is “most prone to rigidity and judgmentalism.” What is needed to maintain flexibility and humility in our acts of justice and compassion? How might you make a distinction between judgment (identifying a social/moral wrong) and judgmentalism?
- Compassion fatigue is real: it’s when we give to others continuously without taking care of ourselves. What are ways that God is inviting you to receive God’s compassion, such that our acts of love are given—not out of a deficit—but out of God’s abundance and sufficient grace?
- Spend some time in prayer, becoming aware of God’s compassion for you and God’s compassion for others. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you how you might inhabit God’s compassion and exhibit it more fully in the coming week.

*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.