



The HeART of Conversation



*Let your conversation
always be with grace, seasoned with salt,
that you may know how you ought to answer each one.*

Speakers:
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A Conversation of Compassion (Part I)

Speaker: Carol Helland

And Jesus ... was moved with compassion toward them. ~Matthew 14:14

Introduction

Compassion (*eleeo*): *stirred to the depths; to feel sympathy with the misery of another, especially such sympathy which manifests itself in action, less frequently in word*

There is no stronger word in the Greek language for sympathy and again and again in the Gospel story, it is used of the Lord Jesus.



Two Daughters: A Total Healing (Mark 5:21-43)

Israel: A Trip That Keeps on Giving

The Israel Museum/Shrine of the Book

Book: the most extensive holding of biblical and Holy Land archeology in the world—a collection of nearly 500,000 artifacts. The highlight of the museum is the *Shrine of the Book*, which houses the Dead Sea Scrolls.



The Temple Mount/Dome of the Rock

Rock: Archaeological, historical, and eye-witness accounts place the location of the first and second temples directly over the Dome of the Rock. It is also called Mount Moriah—the place where Abraham sacrificed his son Isaac. Jews, Christians, and Muslims have connections to the Temple Mount—all three regard it as their connection to Abraham and Mt. Moriah. Since the Crusades, the Muslims have managed the site.

Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum: Israel's official memorial to the victims of the Holocaust, which houses a *Hall of Names* of the known victims. It holds more than 210 million documents; 500,000 photographs; 131,000 survivor testimonies; 32,400 artifacts; and 11,500 works of art. Approximately 1.5 million Jewish children perished, and they are remembered in a children's memorial, an underground cavern with flickering flames within prevailing darkness.

Hezekiah's Water Tunnel: "S" shaped, 1,170 foot tunnel carved during the reign of Hezekiah to bring water from one side of the city to the other—considered one of the greatest works of engineering technology. Hezekiah began making preparations for war when he learned that Sennacherib—the Assyrian king—intended to attack Jerusalem. He had to make sure there would be plenty of water. The tunnel is two feet wide and five feet high, so if you are claustrophobic, this is not the place for you.

Megiddo—Valley of Jezreel: At the end of the seven year Tribulation, the Anti-Christ will gather the world’s armies to this Valley under the pretense of decisively eradicating the Jewish people, but the Anti-Christ’s real agenda will be to destroy the Messiah as He returns to establish His 1,000 year Messianic Kingdom. Millions will gather here and the heavens will break open to reveal the Messiah’s return to Earth on a white horse, followed by the armies of heaven clothed in fine linen, white and clean. The Megiddo Valley is a reminder that the success of the wicked is short-lived, and Christ’s Kingdom will last forever.



Israel: God’s Special Treasure *For the LORD has chosen Jacob for Himself, Israel for His special treasure. ~ Psalm 135:4*
We love Israel because God loves Israel.

The Power of Compassion

The life and ministry of Messiah Jesus is full of compassion. He confirmed His divine mission by a vast variety of astonishing miracles, demonstrating His power as well as His compassion. He often imparted His compassion through touch because touch communicates **empathy** and **affirmation**.

Setting: Capernaum (**Capernaum**: “village”; **Naum** from the town of Capernaum, a fishing village, located beside the Sea of Galilee, the former home of the prophet Nahum. Jesus frequently taught in the Synagogue in Capernaum. No one ever spoke such words of compassion and hope. *They*



Site of Capernaum



marveled at the gracious words that proceeded out of His mouth.

And there comes one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name. ~ Mark 5:22

“Jairus” means *whom Jehovah enlightens*. He was a ruler of the Capernaum synagogue. When his twelve-year-old daughter was near death, He could only think of Messiah *Yeshua* (Jesus in Hebrew). Jairus had faith in Messiah’s divine ability to heal, not so much the healing but the saving of her life from impending death.

Since the rejection by the leaders of Israel, Messiah only performed miracles in response to personal need on the basis of faith. ~Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum, *Yeshua, The Life of Messiah*, p. 239

The Woman Who Was Healed by a Touch

Your faith has made you well. ~Mark 5:34

The Jewish woman had suffered with a debilitating gynecological condition for as long as Jairus' daughter had been alive—twelve years. And she had spent all she had to get well with no relief. Ancient physicians were limited in what they could do—one remedy was a mixture of olive oil and wine. So the woman was physically, emotionally, financially, and socially drained.

God's law (Leviticus 15:19-38) declared that where there was a flow of blood, there was uncleanness, so she was in a perpetual state of uncleanness.

1. She could not enter the synagogue with others;
2. She could not enter the Temple area in Jerusalem on any Feast days;
3. Anyone she touched became unclean and would have to go through the process of being ceremonially cleansed. No one would want to get near her.



Fringe Benefits:

If I do but touch His garment, I shall be made whole. ~Mark 5:28

Faith in Messiah *Yeshua* gave her “fringe benefits.” Without a word, she reached as far as she could to briefly touch the tassels of His garment, hung at the corners.

- **Mural in Encounter Chapel in Duc in Altum in Migdal**, which captures the hand of the woman seeking healing as she reached for the hem of Jesus' garment.

All devout Jews wore robes with four ritual tassels (*tzitit*), of white thread with a blue thread woven through them on the outer garment to remind them they were God's people. The outer garment is the *himation*, a mantle or cape worn over the tunic. It was a rectangular piece of wool worn over the body or shoulder in the day and used as cover at night. The Lord commanded His people to sew tassels on the corners of their garments as a constant reminder of His commandments (Numbers 15:37-41 & Deuteronomy 22:12).



The Hebrew word “corners” is translated “wings,” in Malachi 4:2, a verse that speaks of the coming Messiah: *He would have healing in His wings*. Many of the sick sought to touch the “fringe” of Christ's outer cloak and *as many as touched it were healed*. ~Matthew 14:36 It was one of these “wings,” or edge of His cloak, the woman touched.

She was a poor, unimportant sufferer, and yet to that woman, Jesus gave all of Himself. Love never thinks of people in terms of human importance. The Lord Jesus loves each one of us as if there were only one of us to love.

In Mark 5:34, Messiah Jesus addresses her: **Daughter** which speaks as a Father to His child, an endearing, intimate term. She was no longer alone, but part of His family by virtue of her faith in Him. **Be of good cheer; your faith has made you *whole** (“to save” in Greek: *sozo*). Her faith was the means of her healing. He tells her, **Go in**



shalom. It was the healing of her **body** (Greek: *hugies*, rooted in *hugiaino*, from which we get **hygiene**) as well as her **soul** (the **peace with God**).

“Dis-ease”: a condition that reverses the “ease” of life

*Though He brings grief; He will show **compassion**, so great is His unfailing love. For He does not willingly bring affliction or grief to the children of men.* ~Lamentations 3:32-33

God does not want disease. We know this by Christ’s response and healing. He hates disease as He does all results of sin like death and sorrow. There was a time when there was neither sickness nor disease. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve had perfect health and their bodies were free from disease. But pride caused them to disobey God, and then *sin entered into the world, and death through sin, so sin passed upon all, for that* ~Romans 5:12. Now nature was and sickness, injury, and joint reality. God is not the author of death. Satan is.



all have sinned turned upside down issues became a grim sin, disease and

But someday there shall be no more wipe every tear from our eyes— death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There for the former things will have Lord Jesus will make all things new ~Revelation 21:4-5

curse, and God will there will be no more will be no more pain, passed away. The

The Compassion of Our Savior



He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement for our peace was upon Him. And by His stripes we are healed. ~Isaiah 53:5

I believe the Lord Jesus is the same today in heaven as He was on earth; however, He has wounds (not scars). “Wounding” speaks of “pierced” by the nails that bore through His hands. It was our sins that did that to Him. Christ suffered death as our substitute. He received the penalty our sins deserved, and by faith in His work we receive, in exchange, the blessings of His righteousness.

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that we in Him might become the righteousness of God. ~2 Corinthians 5:21

His love and **compassion** moved Him to come down from the glories of heaven and live on earth, to humble Himself, to take on the form of a servant, to die for you, and

become obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross. ~Philippians 2:8 Why? Because it was the good pleasure of Him who saves us to love us freely. *In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished on us.* ~Ephesians 3:7-8

When Christ bore your sins on the Cross, He was feeling **compassion** for you. He did not just pity you and me that we were sinners, but He put Himself in our place and this great love has now given us a new meaning to the word “**compassion.**” (com: *with*; passion: *suffering*).



And His resurrection is as much a part of the Gospel as is His death. He arose from the grave and conquered sin and death, and now prays for us and offers His **compassion.** He is a living Savior.

*Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe,
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.*

Have you come by faith to the Savior who loves you and gave His life for you? If so, you have eternal life, and can know the love of Christ that surpasses all understanding. *And nothing shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus.*
~Romans 8:39

Our Compassionate High Priest

[He] is **touched** with the feeling of our infirmities ~Hebrews 4:15

The word “**touched**” means **sympathy.** It means to *suffer along with.*

Because He suffered many things in His humanity, He is able to be sympathetic with you. You have a **compassionate** Savior who understands and gives you mercy and grace to help in time of need. ~Hebrews 4:16 We can never trust God in our own strength, but we can always trust Him to provide the strength we need. *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.* ~Philippians 4:13 For the probability of your encountering a disease or injury may happen somewhere, sometime in your life.

Fear not, for I am with you. ~Isaiah 43:5 The Lord Jesus knows that fear is real and that is why “*Fear not*” appears 365 times in the Bible, one “*fear not*” for every day of the year. God knows how you feel and what you fear, and He is adequate to meet your fear and replace it with His perfect peace.



The Skill of Compassion

Express your appreciation to those in the medical community who are helping you. Simple forms of thankfulness communicate our shared humanity amid the difficult experience of disease and injury.

Medical Professionals: You have a Great Physician, the Lord Jesus, who daily shows you **compassion**, so you can demonstrate **compassion** to others. You are His hands, His words, His touch to bring health and healing to those in need.

A Thorn



A thorn has entered your foot—that is why you weep at times at night. There are some in this world who can pull it out. That skill they have learned from God. ~Catherine of Sienna

That image of pain as a deeply embedded thorn reminds me of how complex and wounded we are, for we not only have physical wounds but also emotional.

In a broken world, none of us escape unwounded—hurt and scars are deeply embedded in each of us. But deeper still is the love we find in Christ—love tender enough to draw out those thorns from our past with the balm of His **compassion**.

Jairus Continues Believing

Jairus continued believing in Messiah Jesus, even in the presence of death. He had witnessed the woman's faith and learned the lesson of faith.

When I read this story, I can't help but feel empathy for Jairus but especially for his wife, mother to the little girl.

The Compassion of Mothers

*Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have not **compassion** on this child she has borne? ~Isaiah 49:15*

There is nothing easy about being a mother, especially when your child is sick. Being a mother is a huge responsibility, an enormous job, and yet a delight and great "reward." In fact, there is probably no profession (and that's what I call it, a profession) that requires greater sacrifice. Throughout Scripture, the role of mothers is given dignity and significance.



Because He Lives, I Can Face Tomorrow

*Because He lives, I can face tomorrow;
because He lives, all fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future,
and life is worth the living,
Just because He lives. ~Bill & Gloria Gaither*



The delay with the woman was just enough time for his daughter to die. The ruler was fearing and Jesus said, “*Stop fearing. Be believing . . .*” which meant a continued, sustained faith, even in the presence of death.

Jesus forced everyone out of the house. The Messiah no longer performed miracles for the sake of the public. But He allowed the parents to enter the chamber where their daughter lay. He also had with him Peter, James, and John. They would witness Messiah’s power over death.



The Lord Jesus took the girl by the hand and He says to her, “*Talitha kumi.*” *Talitha* is Aramaic for “damsel,” and “*kumi*” means “to rise,” which being interpreted is “*Little girl, to you, I say, be arising.*” And she walked . . . first, possibly to her mother, then to her father, and then, finding out what had happened, to the Lord Jesus who had restored her life.

Trust and faith in the Messiah had paid rich dividends to the parents. The Lord commanded she be given something to eat to prove she was restored to health and needed nourishment. **The Great Physician was careful about details.**

Jesus claimed for life a girl who had been marked for death. Jesus Christ is not only the Lord of life; He is the Lord of death who triumphed over the grave and who has promised *because I live, you shall live also.* ~John 14:19

Conclusion

The Love of Christ

The Lord’s **compassions** fail not. *They are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness.* ~Lamentations 3:22-23

The supreme reason that you can and should trust the Lord through suffering is found at Calvary. The steadfast love of our Lord Jesus never ceases. And nothing, absolutely nothing, can separate you from His constant outpouring of love, grace, **compassion**, and forgiveness. He is your trusted Friend. He cares for you.



Heaven Came Down and Glory Filled My Soul

*O what a wonderful; wonderful day -- Day I will never forget;
After I'd wandered in darkness away, Jesus my Savior I met,
Oh, what a tender, **compassionate** Friend.
He met the need of my heart;
Shadows dispelling, with joy I am telling,
He made all the darkness depart.
Heaven came down and glory filled my soul,
When at the cross the Savior made me whole;
My sins were washed away –
And my night was turned to day –
Heaven came down and glory filled my soul.*

~John W. Peterson

