

# The Leaders Dress Code: Compassion

#### FOR THE GROUP LEADER

These notes have been designed to disciple leaders in round the table small group discussions.

What is in ITALICS is meant to be read out loud.

Welcome to this week's Mustard Seed
Leadership discussion. The current series is "The
Leaders Dress Code"

**STEP #1: ACCOUNTABILITY** 

Let's get started. The topic of discussion today is "Compassion" But before we start on the new topic, we will usually hold each other accountable about last week's action step.

Since this is the first in the series, let's go straight to the notes.

#### **STEP #2: READ THE NOTES**

**Option 1**: Let each person in the group take turns reading a section. (Each section is marked with a READER # ). Go clockwise starting with the Group Leader, and highlight or underline what catches your attention.

Option 2: The leader reads all the sections.

Option 3: Watch the video.

https://youtu.be/tDqwMS--Jzs

**READER 1** 

#### THE LEADERS DRESS CODE

#### 1. COMPASSION

Romans 13:14 (NIV) "... clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ..."

Colossians 3:12-15 (NIV) "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

## This is not just character - this is the glory of God!

#### **Exodus 34:5-6 (NIV)**

"Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness"

#### **READER 2**

## God's glory is the manifestation of his character and nature

- And the first aspect of that is **COMPASSION** 

**Def:** Concern for the suffering or misfortunes of others

**Greek:** "inward parts of body: intestines" - deep inner emotion

#### **EXAMPLES:**

#### 1. We see it in the Father:

#### John 3:16 (NIV)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

## This was a deep inner pain at the plight of humanity that made Him send His Son as a demonstration of his love

- A love that is stirred into action

#### **READER 3**

#### 2. See it in Jesus

#### Matthew 14:14 (NIV)

14 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had **compassion** on them and healed their sick.

#### Matthew 15:32 (NIV)

32 Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have **compassion** for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way."

#### Matthew 20:34 (NIV)

34 Jesus had **compassion** on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him.

## Compassion was a primary motivating force in Jesus' life

**READER 4** 

#### What does COMPASSION look like?

#### 1. It is love that MOVES us to action

 Jesus had compassion on the hungry crowd and so fed them

#### 2. It is love that JOINS us

- "com" eg Great Commission - let's go together!

- Psalms 23:4 (NIV) Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 3. It is love that OWNS a struggle eg. Good Samaritan
- Could not walk past a dying man without wanting to help

Illust: My wife can't drive past a lost dog walking in the streets - has to stop and help it finds its way back home

**READER 5** 

#### How do we put it on?

- 1. See it's importance FIRST, in this list and glory list. In 1 Cor 13:1-3 we are warned that anything not done in love doesn't count!
- 2. Receive it if we can't receive God's glory of compassion we will never reflect it. Sometimes as

leaders we are too proud to open our hearts and truly receive his amazing love.

3. Reflect it - Jesus was MOVED by compassion. The Holy Spirit will use compassion to move you as a leader. So get ready to move.

## LET'S PUT ON THE GLORY OF GOD - THE DRESS CODE FOR LEADERSHIP

#### **STEP #3: SHARE YOUR HIGHLIGHT**

Now let's go around the group and take turns sharing what stood out to you the most from what we read. What stood out to you and why?

#### **STEP #4: EVALUATION**

I am going to ask each of you in turn to evaluate yourself (From a 5 which is **EXCELLENT**, down to a 1 meaning **LOTS OF WORK NEEDED!**) on how well you are doing in the area of this topic

and then share this with the group and why you chose this score.

**STEP #5: Application** 

## Lastly, let's go around the group and answer the following questions:

- 1. How did you picture God's glory? Can you picture it now as an outward expression of His glorious nature and character?
- 2. Does it surprise you that the word 'compassion' finds its roots in the word 'intestines'? Why do you think it does?
- 3. Compassion seemed to be a primary way in which the Holy Spirit led Jesus. Have you felt the nudging of compassion to do something? Did you?

#### **CLOSING**

A great way to close off is to pair up briefly for a moment of prayer. Pray for each other that you will succeed in your action steps. Thank everyone for coming and committing to grow as a disciple of Jesus.

#### For more notes visit:

https://outlookchurch.co.za/mustardseedleadership

