

The Need for Compassion in our Discipleship. Matthew 14:14.

What Causes Sickness? Sin, Stress, Satan, Self

The question is not so much what causes sickness, but how do we respond to sickness.

ATTITUDES TOWARD SICKNESS

Hinduism: Illusion (It's not really happening) **Buddhism:** Indifference (Try not to feel it)

Islam: Resignation (It is will of Allah) **Stoicism:** Toughness (Grit your teeth) **Christians:** Compassion!

Matthew 14:14 "...he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

Steps Needed to Practice Compassion with those who are Suffering.

- 1. Thoughtfulness: P _____ A _____.** **Psalm 106:44** God saw their misery and heard their cry."
God notices our pain and sickness. We need to notice others needs.
Psalm 142:4 "I look for someone to come and help me, but no one gives me a passing thought! No one will help me; no one cares a bit what happens to me."
Matthew 25:36 "...I was sick and you looked after me,..."
- 2. Presence: S _____ U _____.** **Ps. 38:11** "Because of my sickness, no friends or neighbors will come near me."
Reasons why we avoid those in need of our compassion:
(1) We are Afraid, (2) We are Busy, (3) We don't know what to say.
Philippians 4:13-14: "I can do all this through him who gives me strength. Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles."
- 3. Acceptance: R _____ E _____** **1 Corinthians 15:43** "The bodies we have now embarrass us, for they become sick and die; but they will be full of glory when we come back to life again. Yes, they are weak, dying bodies now, but when we live again they will be full of strength." Living Bible
- 4. Affirmation: G _____ H _____.** **Proverbs 18:14** "Your will to live can sustain you when you are sick, but if you lose it, your hope is gone."
Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
- 5. Give Healing: R _____ M _____.** **Luke 10:25-37. Vs. 34.** "He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine..." **1 Timothy 5:23** "Stop drinking only water, use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.
- 6. Share Prevention: H _____ H _____.**
- 7. Pray: A _____ G _____ to H _____:** **James 5:16:** "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

TAKE AWAY FOR DAILY LIFE: Normal People, Empowered by God, can make a Difference Together.

The question is will you make a difference? **Will you "care for the sick, will you be a person of compassion?"**

Or will you go home and talk about the message or an illustration that you either liked or didn't like? There are people in need of compassion and support all around us. May God give us ears to hear, and heart that care. **Jesus said: "I was sick, and you cared for me."**