



Self help is no help – self sacrifice is the way to finding your true self.
– Jesus (*Luke 9:25, The Message*)

Be compassionate as your heavenly father is compassionate.
– Jesus (*Luke 6:36, New Living Translation*)

Pleasures have the raw power to elbow their way out of their intended order and to usurp the Giver who created them.
– C.S. Lewis

Jesus compassion is characterized by a downward pull. That is what disturbs us. We cannot even think about ourselves in terms other than those of an upward mobility in which we strive for better lives, higher salaries, and more prestigious positions. Thus, we are deeply disturbed by a God who embodies downward movement.
– Henri Nouwen, *Compassion*

It's tragic that so many rich Christians are missing Jesus' path to joy and self-fulfillment. We are neglecting the fact that genuine joy and enduring happiness flow from practicing Jesus' paradoxical teaching that it is better to give than to receive.
– Ronald J. Sider, *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger*

When people look at the church, they should see the very embodiment of Jesus! When people look at the church, they should see the One who declared – in word and in deed to the leper, the lame, and the poor – that His kingdom is bringing healing to every speck of the universe.
-- Corbett & Fikkert, *When Helping Hurts*

The instructions of Jesus to the disciples to feed the people and to count their reserves of bread signify unambiguously that the food had to be provided through the disciples...Jesus knows from the beginning what he will do ...his instructions are intended to lead them to understanding.
– William Lane, *The New International Commentary on the New Testament*