

# STARTING OVER



Part 1: TRUST  
Part 2: GROW  
Part 3: GIVE  
Part 4: GO

## Part 5: Compassion

*... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded...  
~ Jesus*

### APPETIZER: The World vs. The Word

#### The World says...

"You should be happy!"

"Rise to the top!"

You can be anything you want!"

"He got what he deserved!"

"Look out for yourself!"

#### Jesus says...

"Blessed are the poor in spirit."  
**Matt 5:3**

"Take the lowest place."  
**Luke 14:10**

"The least among you is  
the greatest."  
**Luke 9: 48**

"God bless those who are  
hungry and thirsty for justice."  
**Matt 5:6**

"Whatever you do for the least  
of these you do for me."  
**Matt 25:40**

### DINE IN: The Widow, Jesus and the Crowd

Luke 7:11-17

#### A Widow's Plight

v. 11-12

- Poverty
- Marginalization
- Loss

#### A Counter-Cultural Response

v. 13-14

- Being moved to compassion
- The gift of touch

#### The Result

v. 15-17

- Death is interrupted
- A state of awe
- Word spread

**Luke 4:16-19; Isaiah 61:1-3**

### TAKE OUT: More Than a Feeling

#### Ways to Respond:

- 1) Pray
- 2) Re-orient your life
- 3) Look around you - Where are the widows, orphans, oppressed, poor and hungry?
- 4) Determine your next steps – use our Compassion Card resource as a starting point!

A Promise: **Isaiah 58:5-10**

NEXT WEEK: We start our new series called Still. Here.

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## Home Church Questions

### HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

Take out the blue Compassion Overview card.

1. “We believe all people are created in the image of God and have infinite worth”. [Note Genesis 1:27] Share about a time when you felt loved, cherished, and/or valuable. Why is it so memorable?
2. “We want to be a community of Jesus-centered disciples who passionately love the most vulnerable people in our world”. Society is increasingly fractioned as people think, say, and do things that emphasize our differences rather than similarities.
  - a. Share about a time you have been offended by someone’s words or actions. Did other people justify your taking offence?
  - b. Has someone ever taken offense to something you said without your intending it? How did it make you feel?

### HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

3. Read **Galatians 3:26-29**. What verse seems significant to you?
  - a. Why did Paul outline the divisions between people when he wrote this to the Galatians?
  - b. Why do disparities exist between people (e.g. rich and poor)? List the imbalances you see reflected in the world, media, and daily life. When do these work to your advantage or disadvantage?
  - c. Paul is writing only to Christians. What does this mean for how Christians interact with non-Christians?
4. **Watch “A Forgotten Crisis: Central Africa Republic” on YouTube.**
  - a. Amidst this discouraging context Jesus is present. List examples from the video where the local community overcame their differences to work together.
  - b. As Christians we are called to love everyone, including our enemies (**Luke 6:27-36**). How does this challenge you? Do you treat everyone as equally made in God’s image? How can you do this more?
  - c. How can you get involved with your site’s local Compassion partners as they reach the vulnerable in your neighbourhood?

### HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

5. As Jesus followers, we are committed to laying aside our differences and valuing all people. When have you seen this done well or poorly? What is God saying to you? Pray for increased faith and courage to follow Jesus’ teachings and boldly love humanity.