

EQUIP

PRAY

**GEAR
UP**

REACH

BELONG

EQUIP

PRAY

GEAR
UP

REACH

BELONG

Connection

The background features a pattern of interlocking gears in various shades of grey, brown, and olive green. Several circular logos are scattered throughout, each containing a stylized gear icon and a word: 'EQUIP' (top left), 'PRAY' (top right), 'GEAR UP' (center), 'REACH' (bottom left), and 'BELONG' (bottom right). The word 'Connection' is written in a white, hand-drawn, slightly irregular font across the center of the image.



EQUIP



PERFORM



**GEAR
UP**



REACH



BELONG

EQUIP

PERFORM

GEAR
UP

Maturity

REACH

BELONG

EQUIP

PRAY

GEAR
UP

REACH

BELONG

EQUIP

PRAY

GEAR
UP

Dependence

REACH

BELONG

EQUIP

PRAY

GEAR
UP

REACH

BELONG



COMPASSIÓN

Big Idea



Big Idea

We live in a culture that is experiencing
'ideology exhaustion'.....
and aches to experience authentic compassion.

Ideology

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1. Visionary theorizing

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2. A systematic body of concepts especially about human life or culture

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3. A manner or the content of thinking characteristic of an individual, group, or culture
4. The integrated assertions, theories and aims that constitute a sociopolitical program

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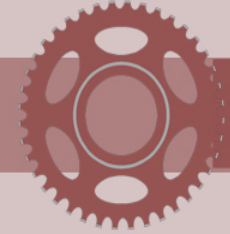
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**Authentic compassion is the substance of the
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Big Idea

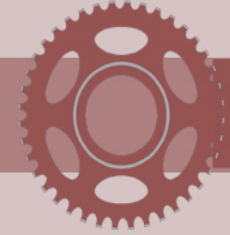
People actually do not care what you know until they know that you sincerely care.



REACH

Matthew 9:35-38

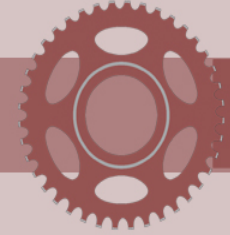




Matthew 9:35-38

35 And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction.

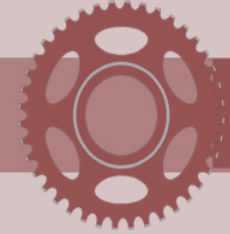
36 When He **saw** the crowds,
He had **compassion** for them,
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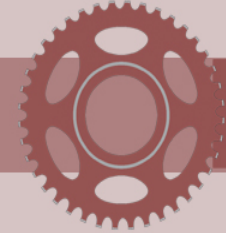
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REACH

John 11:1-44

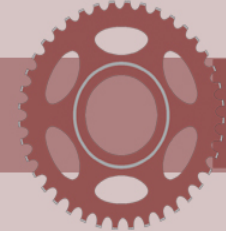




REACH

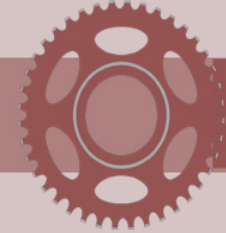
John 11:1-44

He sees the individual also.....

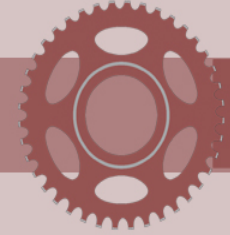


John 11:1-44

- 1 Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.
- 2 It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill.
- 3 So the sisters sent to Him saying,
“Lord, he whom you love is ill.”



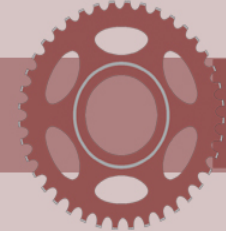
- 4 But when Jesus heard it He said,
“This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”
- 5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.
- 6 So, when He heard that Lazarus was ill, He stayed two days longer in the place where He was.
- 7 Then after this He said to the disciples,
“Let us go to Judea again.”



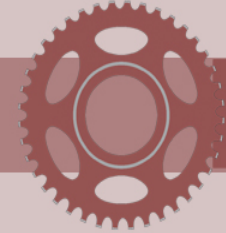
8 The disciples said to Him,
“Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?”

9 Jesus answered,
*“Are there not twelve hours in the day?
If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble,
because he sees the light of this world.*

*10 But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles,
because the light is not in him.”*



- 11 After saying these things, He said to them,
“Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.”
- 12 The disciples said to Him,
“Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.”
- 13 Now Jesus had spoken of His death, but they thought that He meant taking rest in sleep.



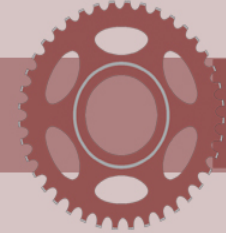
14 Then Jesus told them plainly,

“Lazarus has died,

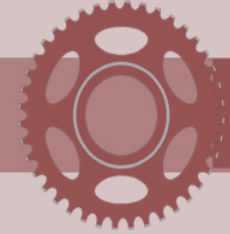
15 *and for your sake I am glad that I was not there,
so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”*

16 So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow
disciples,

“Let us also go, that we may die with Him.”



- 17 Now when Jesus came, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.
- 18 Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off,
19 and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother.
- 20 So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met Him, but Mary remained seated in the house.



John 11:1-44

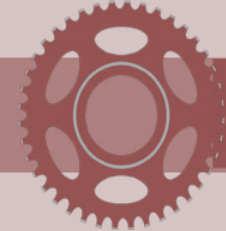
21 Martha said to Jesus,

“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

22 *But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.”*

23 Jesus said to her,

“Your brother will rise again.”



24 Martha said to Him,

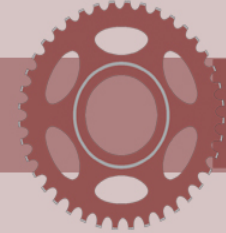
“I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”

25 Jesus said to her,

“I am the resurrection and the life.

Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live,

26 *and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”*



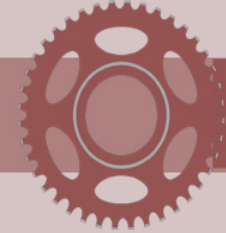
27 She said to Him,

“Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

28 When she said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private,

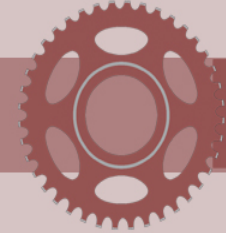
“The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”

29 And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to Him.



John 11:1-44

- 30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met Him.
- 31 When the Jews who were with here in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.
- 32 Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet, saying to Him,.....



32b *“Lord if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”*

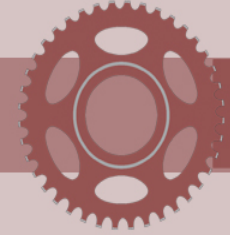
33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in His spirit and greatly troubled.

34 And He said,

“Where have you laid him?”

They said to Him,

“Lord, come and see.”



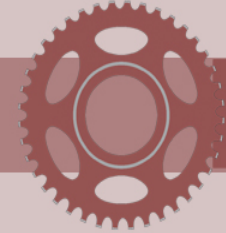
35 Jesus wept.

36 So the Jews said,

“See how He loved him!”

37 But some of them said,

“Could not He who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”



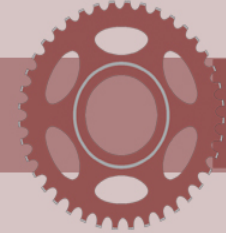
38 Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.

39 Jesus said,

“Take away the stone.”

Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to Him,

“Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.”



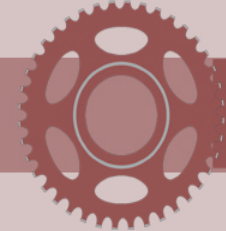
40 Jesus said to her,

“Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”

41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said,

“Father, I thank you that you have heard Me.

42 *I knew you always hear Me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.”*



43 When He had said these thing, He cried out with a loud voice,

“Lazarus, come out.”

44 The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them,

“Unbind him, and let him go.”

Big Idea

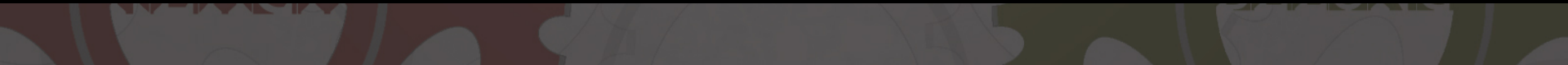
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So.....therefore.....what now?



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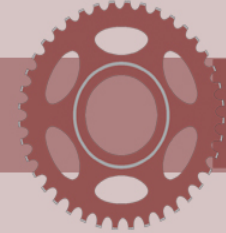
Compassion intends to glorify God.

Compassion understands pain.

Compassion overlooks critique.



Christmas Compassion



- 53 So from that day on they made plans to put Jesus to death.
- 54 Jesus therefore no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there to the region near the wilderness, to a town called Ephraim, and there He stayed with the disciples.
- 55 Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand.....



Christmas Compassion

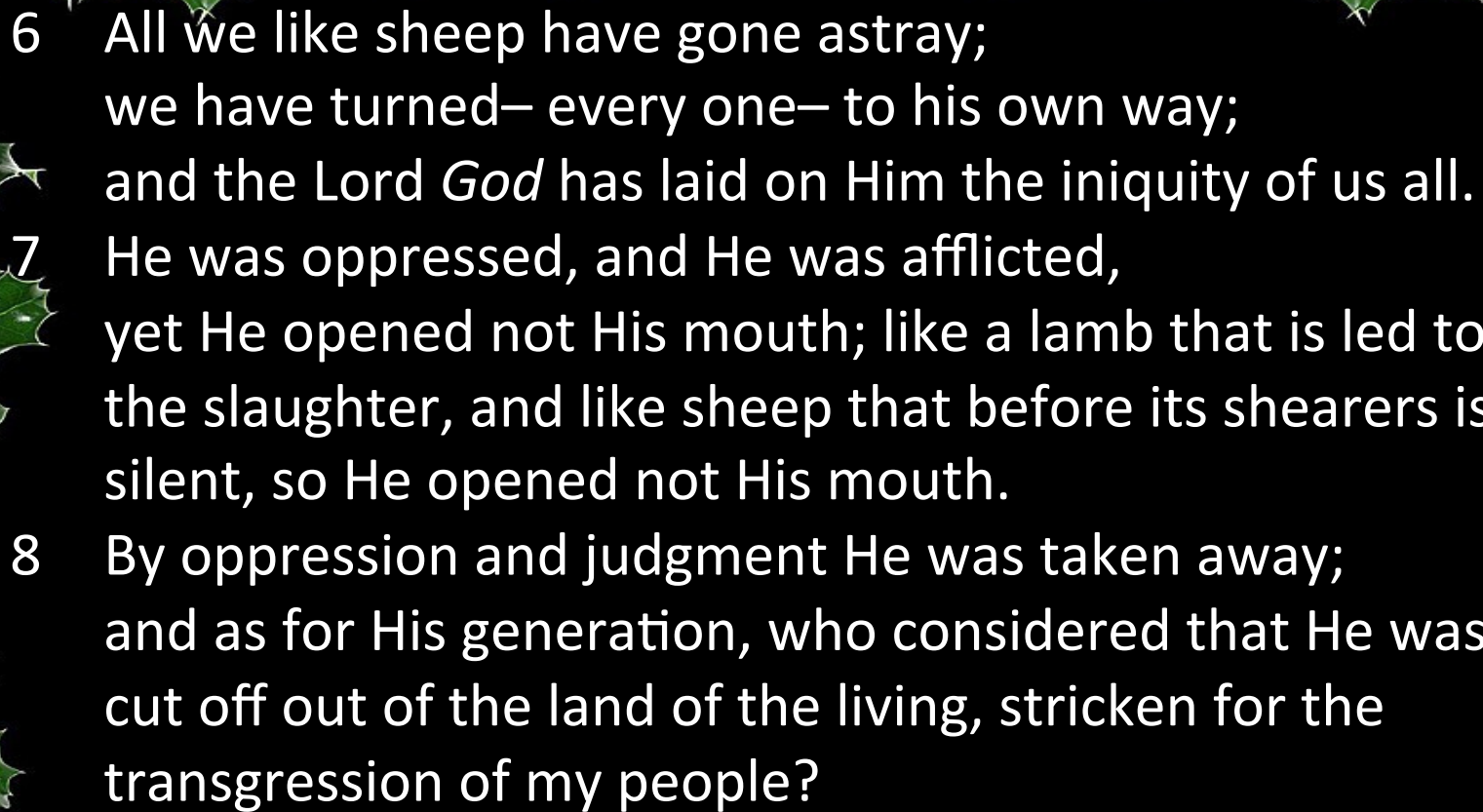
Isaiah 53:4-8



Christmas Compassion

Isaiah 53:4-8

- 4 Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and
afflicted.
- 5 But He was pierced for our transgressions;
He was crushed for our iniquities;
upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with His wounds we are healed.

- 
- 6 All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned— every one— to his own way;
and the Lord *God* has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.
- 7 He was oppressed, and He was afflicted,
yet He opened not His mouth; like a lamb that is led to
the slaughter, and like sheep that before its shearers is
silent, so He opened not His mouth.
- 8 By oppression and judgment He was taken away;
and as for His generation, who considered that He was
cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the
transgression of my people?

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