

RECAP

What did God highlight to you this past week as you continued to process the questions from last week's Spiritual Practice (see below)?

- *Die: What is the false narrative you've been speaking over your life?*
- *Dwell: What does God think of you? What does His word say?*
- *Devote: How do I reclaim what shame has stolen and how do I move forward?*

IDEA 1

Steve repeated this main idea throughout his sermon -

The kind of person who rescues you matters. Jesus, our Rescuer, is so big-hearted, so soft-hearted, so tender-hearted.

What is the first word you would use to describe Jesus? Is it compassionate? Merciful? Something else?

When in your life have you seen Jesus move towards you in compassion?

IDEA 2

Steve highlighted the stark contrast between the concerns of the Pharisees and Jesus.

- The Pharisees' first concern was morality. They had the mentality that if you show kindness to sinners then you must not care about holiness.
- Jesus' first concern was mercy. He cared more about holiness than all the Pharisees yet he led with compassion. Through these encounters people left their lives of sin and followed Jesus.

IDEA 2 CONT.

Why do you think, like the Pharisees, we can confuse kindness to sinners as not caring about holiness?

Where have you seen Christ-like compassion lead someone to take steps towards following Jesus?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Take some time for a “gut check.” Read the following questions out loud as a group and pick one to individually reflect on. Pay attention to anything that Holy Spirit brings to mind.

Who does your “gut hurt” for right now? Who is Holy Spirit moving you towards in compassion?

What’s the first word people use to describe you?

Where are you longing for Jesus’ compassion and the demonstration of his power in your loss, in your family, in your circumstances?

After a few minutes, invite anyone to share their reflections.

APPLICATION

As you listen to people’s responses from the Spiritual Practice, pray for those who are longing to experience Jesus’ compassion and power.

Also, discuss how you can follow in the way of Jesus this week and move towards others in compassion. What might this look like for you individually and collectively as a house church?