

THE PASSIONATE DISCIPLE SERIES WRAP

Luke 14:33 (NIV) "In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples".

I think the whole purpose of this journey and the wrestling with these commands and this teaching is to bring us on our faces before Christ, for Him to show us what that looks like.

I haven't wanted you to forget this, He's the goal. The goal is not even the lost or the poor, the goal is Christ. We want Christ, and He is the centre that drives us.

And that's the whole beauty of this thing because when he's the centre, then anything that even begins to seem like sacrifice is no longer sacrifice, because the One who died on a cross and rose from the grave and ascended on high and has given eternal life freely to us, He's the goal.

And so nothing seems like sacrifice in light of Christ.

1. PASSIONATE SACRIFICE

This involved...

Loving Christ First above all others...

An exclusive allegiance to Christ...

A Total loss of everything else...

Luke 14:33 In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

2. PASSIONATE COMPASSION

Supernatural Awareness of the condition of the lost and **Sacrificial Obedience** to the commission of Christ, you bring these two together you've got the Passionate Compassion that the gospel demands, that the gospel requires.

Matthew 9 & 10

This demands our response...

3. PASSIONATE URGENCY FOR THE LOST

Christ's Passionate Urgency for the lost person trumps all our cultural, all our religious traditions.

Four months! 'No John, Harvest time is right now!' Christ says...

4. PASSIONATE GIVING

From the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus we learnt that...

We can continue in hollow religion and neglect the poor or we can turn in honest repentance to care for the poor...

5. PASSIONATE APPROACH

1 John 3:17 (NIV) *If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?*

The rich man was willing to have Jesus as a teacher to respect, but not to have Jesus as a Lord to obey, and there is a huge difference.

6. PASSIONATE AFFECTION

*Mark 10:21 Jesus looked at him and loved him.
Jesus loves rich people enough to tell them the truth.*

7. PASSIONATE COMMAND

Mark 10:21 (NIV) Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," He said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow Me."

8. PASSIONATE REWARD

Mark 10:29-31 (NIV) Then Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!"²⁹"Truly I tell you," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the Gospel³⁰ will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.

9. PASSIONATE SHIFTS IN THINKING

Instead of God giving possessions to build a place to display His Glory among the nations, now God is giving possessions to build a people who take His Glory to the nations.

10. PASSIONATE WARNING

Mark 10:23(NIV) Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!"

11. PASSIONATE FREEDOM

We are freed to obey the commands of Christ
We're not free from commands. For the first time, once Christ saves us, **we're free to obey commands**. Now we have what's in our hearts that's necessary to put these truths into practice. And we don't have to try to work or earn or do this that we don't want to do, we do begrudgingly.

12. PASSIONATE FAMILY

We gain a spiritual family including a Heavenly Father, a big brother and a counsellor.

2 GREAT POSSIBILITIES...

1. BOOT & TRAILOR SALE FOR THE POOR

This is going to be conducted here at Lifestreams Christian Church in our car park and grounds. Clear guidelines are the sale must be of things that are working and valuable.

You are responsible for the this - we may be able to find some people who are willing to help you sell and what you don't sell you take home.

You don't take any money home though - that will go into the pot for

Myanmar
Moorditch Keila
Karawarra
Sonlife Africa

2. C2C POOR MINISTRIES

One of the tragedies of giving today is to discover that much of what is given to many ministries is swallowed up in administration and fundraising. The Australian Newspaper has just finished running a series of articles and studies on this that has shown some ministries and popular entities have spent as much as 60% on the admin side of things with only 40% getting to the field.

Our C2C ministries identified with the poor get 100% to the field. If a person wants tax deductibility there is the need to realise we lose 5% in providing this and that it only applies to UNoH and Sonlife Ministries.

The advantages of our programmes is that they are helping the poor and reaching the lost through the local churches we are partnering with.

PASSIONATE DISCIPLE COMMITMENT IDEAS

This is a trigger list only to maybe stimulate or stir you to action. Remember you do this out of a sense of leading from the Holy Spirit and in obedient response to the gospel.

- Fast and pray 1,2 or 3 meals for the poor and give the \$' saved to Burma, India, Thailand, Nepal, Compassion etc.
- Get to know your neighbours
- Visit a lonely neighbour, have a coffee or meal with them
- Have a meal with a person you struggle with or one who is different to you
- Re-evaluate your attitude to money and intentionally give some away weekly, or shout a 'poor' person a meal
- Help out at Perth Church of Christ Soup kitchen Saturday nights 6pm to 8pm
- Give a little extra to our C2C ministry
- Go on a mission trip to another country or community
- Get involved in prison ministry
- Pray for non Christian people in your world.
- Consider becoming a Street chaplain
- Help someone who is long term unemployed get work
- Finance a Micro-enterprise project to help someone out of poverty (C2C team can hook you up with this
- Re-evaluate the use of your home - be creative
- Re-evaluate the use of what we have e.g. boat (take 'social strugglers boating for an afternoon), spare car (share with missional needs), holiday house (bless someone in need and give them a holiday) etc.
- Offer your expertise. List down the talents you have and consider how they can be used by God (SHAPE) e.g. a mechanic could fix the car of a widow, etc
- Do the 40hr famine
- Pray and fast weekly for C2C family and/or 'poor'
- Sleep in the street overnight to identify with the marginalised
- Minister to someone mentally ill
- Assist Morditch Keila or another indigenous ministry
- Eat a meal with someone different to you
- Help 'poor' or 'challenged' children with their homework
- Ask other churches and organizations like Compassion, UNoH etc. as to what ministry to the 'poor' may look like. Do some serious personal homework and research
- Who are the poor at your gate for you?
- Find someone who has lost their way and help them rediscover their dreams
- Teach English as a second language (TESOL)
- Become involved in a refugee ministry
- Find a lonely person and befriend them