

## INTRO / WELCOME / HEART OF THE SERIES

- Welcome to the BEST NIGHT OF THE WEEK!
- Welcome first time guests
- Heart for the Series: We are starting a NEW ERA! An era where students are no longer ok with people being in pain. No longer ok with people being unloved. An era where we are no longer ok with people not knowing Jesus!

## ILLUSTRATION // STORY OF A TIME YOU'VE NEVER BEEN MORE EXHAUSTED

- FOR EXAMPLE: I would tell the story of the time I ran a half marathon

\*\*TIP: Make it FUNNY! Engage your students through humor.

**TRANSITION** // Today I want to talk to you about a type of exhaustion of fatigue that we have to guard our hearts against as we enter into this new era. Its called "Compassion Fatigue".

Definition:

**COMPASSION FATIGUE- An indifference to charitable appeals on behalf of those who are suffering, experienced as a result of the frequency or number of such appeals.**

This means because of the crazy amount of bad news we have access to with one tap or swipe on our phones, the endless commercials about starving kids, all the people experiencing homelessness holding up signs downtown, we can quickly become numb to all of it. We see so much of it that it stops becoming heartbreaking and starts becoming normal.

Compassion fatigue can also set in because we see so many problems and doubt we can make a difference. So we cease to even try.

In this NEW ERA if we are not careful, **compassion fatigue** can set in and numb us to the needs of the neighbors around us.

**TENSION** // So, what do I do to keep myself from ceasing to care? How do I continue to love people and care for them when I know I can't fix everything? How do I know where to even start? The world is so big. There's so many problems that need answers. What do we do?

# New Era

## Text // Luke 10:25 - 37

<sup>25</sup> On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup> “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” <sup>27</sup> He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind<sup>[a]</sup>; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’<sup>[b]</sup>” <sup>28</sup> “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.” <sup>29</sup> But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

### Text Notes //

- Before we skip ahead to Jesus response, we have to take in to account a very important part of this moment.
- Think about who is in this crowd, listening to this question, “*Who is my neighbor?*”
  - Religious leaders / Politicians Mothers / Fathers / Believers/Unbelievers

<sup>30</sup> In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.<sup>32</sup> So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

<sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. <sup>34</sup> He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he took out two denarii<sup>[c]</sup> and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

<sup>36</sup> “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” <sup>37</sup> The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

### Text Notes //

- Jesus reveals the heart of the man asking the original question in vs. 25-29
- Jesus REVERSES the question:
  - The lawyer/religious leader asked the question with the mindset of:
    - What do OTHERS have to do to prove they are neighbors.
  - Jesus asked the question:
    - What are you YOU doing to be a good Neighbor?

## Signs of Compassion Fatigue

### 1. Not My Problem

<sup>31</sup> A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.

-WE LOOK AT PEOPLE AS AN INCONVENIENCE INSTEAD OF A PERSON

### 1. The Problem Is Too Big or Not Big Enough

<sup>32</sup> So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

## 4x Ways to Release Compassion in Your Life:

### 1. FEEL – the weight

*The Good Samaritan felt the weight of the man on the side of the road; not just by looking **AT** him but by **CARING FOR** him.*

## ILLUSTRATION // STORY OF WHEN SOMEONE HAD YOUR BACK

ex: I would tell story of when my older sister beat up someone who was picking on me on the bus.

-I LEARNED THAT DAY THAT SHE HAD MY BACK! She refused to look away!

-PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW WE HAVE THEIR BACK!

## SHOUT OUT // PUBLICLY SHOUT OUT A LEADER OR STUDENT THAT HAS GONE ABOVE AND BEYOND IN CARING FOR OTHERS AND SHOWING THE LOVE OF JESUS -

FEELING IS HARD. IT TAKES SOMETHING FROM US. THERE IS A COST. BUT OUR SAVIOR WAS WILLING TO PAY AN EVEN GREATER COST... ITS OUR TURN

### 2. FOCUS – ON WHAT YOU HAVE

-You might not be able to do EVERYTHING, but you can do SOMETHING

QUESTION // What is SOMETHING you can do?

ILLUSTRATION // Story of somebody that gave something small but made a large impact.

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*Focusing on **EVERYTHING** that needs to be done will blind you from the **SOMETHING** that God wants you to do.*

- i. The Good Samaritan's SOMETHING SAVED SOMEONE
- ii. God can use your SOMETHING to reach SOMEONE

**WE GET SO CAUGHT UP IN OUR LACK, BUT THE ANSWER IS NOT IN WHAT WE DO NOT HAVE. THE ANSWER IS IN WHAT YOU DO HAVE!**

ACTS 3:6, "But Peter said, "I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene—walk!"

## 3. FUND - Be generous with your

- TIME
- TALENT
- TREASUE

**Excuses will DRAIN you of the DRIVE to be generous.**

- "I don't have enough time."
- "I am not good enough."
- "I do not have enough."
- The love of God flows best through GENEROSITY
- The Good Samaritan was an example of INSANE GENEROSITY

## ILLUSTRATION // STORIES OF STUDENTS AND LEADERS

## 4. FOLLOW THROUGH

b. It is not how you START, it is how you FINISH.

1. "Faith without action is DEAD."

## CONCLUSION // WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

## ILLUSTRATION // SPIRITUAL LEPROSY

-Tanya was a little girl who was sick but her parents didn't know what was wrong... One day Tanya was playing with her mom and her mom left the room to talk on the phone for a few minutes. When she returned she saw that Tanya had painted the wall red... It was her blood. She had bit her finger off!

# New Era

-Tanya had leprosy. Nerves and parts of her body were dying and she could not feel pain anymore. But it's dangerous when we don't feel pain. When we don't feel pain we don't know what needs help.

-The world is hurting because for too long the church has looked the other way. We have stopped feeling the pain of others around us and now when the world is looking around for hope, the church doesn't know what to do!

LET'S START A NEW ERA, WHERE WE REFUSE TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY!  
WE REFUSE TO DO WHAT IS COMFORTABLE, AND WE DO WHATS NEEDED!

This month it would be easy for us to not do any fundraisers. It would be easy to not pray for all of the ministries we support through Speed the Light. But let's not choose the easy things. Let's choose the right things!

It is only when we begin to see people the way Jesus see people that we can learn to LOVE LIKE JESUS

Overcoming compassion fatigue requires LOVING PEOPLE like JESUS LOVED PEOPLE

- Unconditionally
- With NO agenda
- Unlimited Grace

**Galatians 6:9, "So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up."**

## ALTAR CALL //

1. **Repentance for not being willing to be bothered by others who are in need.**
2. **Ask God to break our hearts for the lost.**

## Salvation