

### 3) Have Compassion

#### **Mark 6:33-34**

#### **Colossians 3:12-13**

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Treat people as though they have value. Do you see each and every person you meet as though they are someone with value, with meaning, with significance. Do you engage each person as though they were important to you.

*"Truly, we live in a world that desperately needs a smile, a friendly touch, a kind word. Our encouragement can make a difference in the daily challenges we all face, but encouragement can also make a difference for eternity. And that's the real power to change a life." Sandra Aldrich*

"Another sleepy Sunday, safe within the walls  
Outside a dying world in desperation calls  
But no-one hears the cries, or knows what they're about  
The doors are locked within, or is it from, without..."

Looking through rose colored stained glass windows  
Never allowing the world to come in  
Seeing no evil and feeling no pain  
Making the light as it comes from within so dim."  
Petra

We have to engage people where they are not where we are. We need to let them talk more than we talk. We need to ensure that we are seeking to understand them more as we are getting them to understand us.

Remember we are on a journey, you don't know the impact of your words or you life!

## **Your raison d'être**

*"Why does the church exist?"*

#### **Mark 3:7-12**

Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the lake, and a large crowd from Galilee followed. When they heard about all he was doing, many people came to him from Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, and the regions across the Jordan and around Tyre and Sidon. Because of the crowd he told his disciples to have a small boat ready for him, to keep the people from crowding him. For he had healed many, so that those with diseases were pushing forward to touch him. Whenever the impure spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God." But he gave them strict orders not to tell others about him.

#### **Mark 1: 33**

The whole town gathered at the door.

#### **Mark 1:35-37**

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!"

#### **Mark 1:40-45**

A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." Filled with Compassion Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured. Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: "See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.

**Mark 2:1-2**

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them.

**Mark 2:13**

Once again Jesus went out beside the lake. A large crowd came to him, and he began to teach them.

So there is an interesting twist in this passage. You have the Pharisees who want to kill Jesus and you have the people who want to mob him.

One group is repelled by Jesus and the other is drawn to him.

We need to be purposeful in how we live out and express our faith. **It's not our job to point out sin or mistakes in an effort to condemn or judge people. We look hypocritical when we point out someone else's faults when we are so faulty, polluted and broken ourselves.**

Being harsh with people will ensure they run away from us, very fast. It will ensure they stay away from our churches. It will ensure they are more closed to the gospel than ever. It will ensure we give them a wrong perspective of God and His grace. It will repel people.

All of us are called to reach people with the gospel, giving people the message of hope and life, freedom and grace, because of the work of Jesus.

It's an attractive message that draws people...not repels them.

**Mark 5: 21-35**

**Everyone in our path matters. Everyone in our path has value- Even when we are in a hurry.**

How to reach people

1) Be a person of grace

**John 1: 14-18**

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'" From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but God the One and only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.

**2 Corinthians 4: 14-15****Ephesians 1: 3-7****Colossians 4: 5-6**

Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

**Hebrews 12:15**

2) Be authentic- the opposite of authenticity is dishonesty.

**Matthew 23:25-28**

"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean. "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.

See people are drawn to a faith that is sincere and authentic. We have a message that can heal lives and broken hearts!