

# compassion fatigue?

February 26, 2017 - Pastor Bruce French

**W** hat is the compassion of Christ like?

**Principle one:**

*The compassion of Christ has a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. Luke 5:12-13*

**Application one:**

\_\_\_\_\_ *with the sorrows of others. cf. Col. 3:12*

**Principle two:**

*The compassion of Christ is \_\_\_\_\_ . Luke 5:14*

**Application two:**

\_\_\_\_\_ *for inclusive deliverance. cf. Jam. 5:15*

## TAKE HOME TRUTH

*The compassion of Christ is \_\_\_\_\_  
through \_\_\_\_\_ . Luke 5:15-16*

**When you pray...**

- A. Acknowledge your \_\_\_\_\_.**
- B. Accept God's \_\_\_\_\_.**
- C. Ask to be \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Today's Core Belief:**

**Jesus Christ:** "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin – that He suffered, was crucified and buried, but rose on the third day, after which He ascended into heaven where He sits at the Father's right hand." (from Hebrews 1:3)



## Deeper Connection Study

Compassion and authority are two words not necessarily used together in a sentence or something seen demonstrated by a leader, unless you're talking about Jesus. Yet the two healing stories in today's lesson reveal Jesus' unique style of ministry. In verses 17-26, we see the first of five controversy stories Luke shares with his readers as Jesus now must contend with fierce opponents. *Today's Core Belief discussed: Jesus Christ.*

### Read Luke 5:12-26 (cf. Mark 1:40-2:12)

1. How does the leper recognize Jesus' divine ability (v. 12)? How does Jesus interact with him and what is surprising about the way Jesus does it (vv. 13-14)?
2. Why does Luke mention Jesus' habit of withdrawing to isolated places to pray (v. 16; cf. 6:12; 9:18, 28-29; 11:1)?
3. What issues do the Pharisees and religious leaders have against Jesus (vv. 20-21)? Why does this bother them?
4. How does Jesus' response reveal the breadth of his authority (vv. 22-24)?
5. Why is it important that Jesus commends the faith of those whom he heals? Is faith a prerequisite for healing? Why or why not?
6. How is your faith in Jesus' willingness to heal you and/or forgive your sins? How have you experienced God's grace?

**PRAYER TO THE POINT:** Praise God for the way he heals and forgives through Christ. Ask God to strengthen your faith in his power and authority. Pray for others to follow Christ.



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jesus

Luke 5:12-16



**A**

t one time or another everyone has felt fatigued. Maybe it was from being on your feet

all day long at work. Perhaps it was a time when you were in school and you had one late night after another studying for exams and writing term papers. It may have been from caring for a family member that was ill, and after a period of time you became physically exhausted. More than likely you can recall what that felt like: heavy eyes, cloudy thoughts and an intense longing to shut down.

The symptoms of physical fatigue are very familiar to us, but what about compassion fatigue – do you know its accompanying signs? Though not as common as physical fatigue, compassion fatigue hits many Christians because of their longing to care. Tragically it has some of the same symptoms: weariness, cloudy thoughts and a desire to pull back and become distant. What is the solution to this dilemma? In the passage today Jesus models for us a way to not lose our compassion and our zeal.