**Elder Berry Ross July 14, 2019**

**The Compassionate Christian**

Matthew 9:35-38

**Key Truth:** Multiplication in the church happens when we begin to see the world through the eyes of Jesus Christ and not our own.

1**.** The condition of the crowd:

 A. The crowd was in engulfed with confusion.

 B. There were many roaming aimlessly.

 C. Many of those gathered had no inner peace.

 D.They were in need of a shepherd.

2. Obstacles that derail our compassion:

 A. How we view the world can void our compassion.

 B. Passionate pursuits can cloud our vision.

 C. Believing that it is someone else’s job to reap the harvest.

3. Reaping the harvest begins with compassion.

 A. Compassion allows us to see what Jesus sees. John 4:1-30

 B. We tend to respond when we are compassionate.

 1. Tending to a need.

 2. Listening to their story.

 3.Sharing your testimony.

4. Motivation to work The Lord’s harvest. Colossians 3:12-15

 A. We were chosen by God.

 B. We are set apart.

 C. We have the love of God.

 D. We have a new heart.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** The time could not be better for sharing the gospel with the lost. Challenge yourself to be intentional about sharing Christ this week.

**Food For Thought**

Think of an experience of being the receiver of another person’s generosity or benevolence. What impact did that person make in your life? How did you see Jesus through his or her compassion?

When have you felt emotional or bothered by the spiritual climate of our city?

Which of our church’s local missions opportunities have you been a part of? What have you learned about the needs and spiritual climate of our city in the process?

Read Romans 15:23-28: Looking back on your schedule and priorities for this year, what would you say is your ambition in life?

How do your ambitions compare with Paul’s in terms of clarity? Value? Concern for God’s kingdom?

Why does Paul say the Gentiles are indebted to the Jews?

Why should Christians be motivated to give sacrificially and generously to fund local outreach and ministry efforts? How would you gage your generosity and service to the local body here at Beyond the Walls?

What is the harvest to workers ratio like in our city? What can we do to engage more workers in the harvest?

Where do you sense God calling you to give to help further His kingdom growth in our city?