And Stories

Jesus wants us to connect our faith to our actions.

James 2: 26 As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

Connecting faith to actions results in stories that shape us.

Matthew 20: 32 Jesus stopped and called them. "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked. 33 "Lord," they answered, "we want our sight." 34 Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him.

Mark I: 40 A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed. "If you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean," he said. 41 Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be healed!"

Matthew 9: 35 Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Three Common Elements

1). A Resulting Action



Three Common Elements

2). Jesus had "compassion"

Three Common Elements

3). "And" connecting Jesus" compassion to his actions.

Matthew 20: 34 Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him.

Mark I: 41 Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him.

Matthew 9: And he healed every kind of disease and illness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion...



"And" connects our compassion to our actions

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resulting in God's glory.

Empathy: understand and share the feelings of another.

Compassion (to suffer together): pity with a desire to help.

"And" stories do not begin with empathy.

They begin with compassion.

John II: 35 Jesus wept.

36 Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

John II: 38 Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. 39 "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

John I: 40 Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" 41 So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me." 43 When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

John II: 44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

Jesus sees, feels, and acts.

Compassion can be given to anyone

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but the best place to begin is with those you know.

If you feel compassion for someone

act immediately.



You will most likely have compassion for someone based on your experiences.

This is the work of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2: 38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Will you create your own "and" story this week?

And Stories