

Answers: Lesson FOURTEEN: CLI Leadership Bible Study

How to positively influence the attitudes and actions of others for Jesus Christ

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS Lesson 14: The Tender Heart of a Leader

Lesson 14: The Tender Heart of a Leader (Day One) *Love me Tender*

Read 1 Corinthians 2:11b-13 and answer questions 1-3:

In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.¹² We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.¹³ This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. 1 Corinthians 2:11b-13

1. Who knows the thoughts of God (v. 11b)?

The Spirit of God

2. Christians have not received the _____ **spirit** _____ of the _____ **world** _____ but the _____ **Spirit** _____ who is from _____ **God** _____ (v. 12a).

3. Christians do not speak or act in human wisdom but by the _____ **Spirit** _____ (v.13a).

Read Matthew 23:37 and answer questions 4-5:

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing." Matthew 23:37

4. Jesus acknowledges the evil that exists among the people and yet says, "how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a _____ **hen** _____ gathers her _____ **chicks** _____ under her _____ **wings** _____, but you were not willing.

5. By identifying with a hen gathering chicks, what kind of picture is Jesus painting of Himself?

A tender, caring and fiercely protective mother.

Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did. 1 John 2:6

6. Read 1 John 2:6. If you claim to live in Jesus, how must you walk?

Must walk as Jesus did.

Definition: The word tender is an adjective describing a very loving and gentle person. A tender person is kind, sympathetic, sensitive and caring toward others. It also means being responsive to God's guidance. A tender person often feels emotions intensely.

Read Isaiah 53:2-4 and answer questions 7-11:

He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.³ He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.⁴ Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. Isaiah 53:2-4

7. The prophet Isaiah prophesied about the Messiah long before He was born. In verse 2 Isaiah says that Jesus grew up like a _____ **tender** _____ shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.

8. How is Jesus described physically (v. 2)?

He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him. There was nothing in His appearance that we should desire him.

9. How was Jesus treated by the men He created (v. 3)?

He was despised and rejected by men.

10. Isaiah says "we" esteemed (respected) him not (v. 3). Who are these people that Isaiah identifies with by including himself with the word "we"?

Israelites and all mankind.

11. What kind of person would take up your diseases and carry your sorrows (v. 4)?

Not many people would do this but if a person did - he or she would be self-giving, compassionate and filled with love for mankind. He or she would care more for others than his or her comfort or well being.

12. Examine your own heart. Do you have a situation or lifestyle that rejects or despises the "Man of Sorrows"? Yes No (Circle One) If yes, what are you going to do about it?

Personal Answer

13. Are compassion, mercy, sympathy, empathy, sensitivity and love words that describe your heart of leadership? Yes No Sometimes (Circle One)

Personal Answer

14. Which of characteristics in #14 do you most struggle with and how may we pray for you?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, Please make sure you pray and let your 'learner' know that you have prayed. Pray yourself to make an appropriate comment for encouragement and motivation to grow and mature in Christ.

Personal Application:

Read and meditate on Deuteronomy 32:1-3; Proverbs 4:3-4 and Mark 10:13-16. Ask God to speak to you through these verses.

Listen, O heavens, and I will speak; hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.² Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants.³ I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God!
Deuteronomy 32:1-3

When I was a boy in my father's house, still tender, and an only child of my mother,⁴ he taught me and said, "Lay hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands and you will live."
Proverbs 4:3-4

People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them.¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."¹⁵ I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."¹⁶ And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them. Mark 10:13-16

15. What did God say or impress upon you through these Scripture passages?

Personal Answer

16. How will you change in thought, attitude or action because of your answer above?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, prayerfully consider a thoughtful response.

Lesson 14: The Tender Heart of Leadership (Day Two) The Royal Cloth of Compassion and Mercy

I. Compassion

Definition: Compassion is the concern for the sufferings of others and the desire to help.

And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. Exodus 34:6

17. Read Exodus 34:6. When God passed in front of Moses, what was the first adjective He used in describing Himself?

Compassionate

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Matthew 9:36 (Harassed is being disturbed with trouble or cares)

18. Read Matthew 9:36. Why did Jesus have compassion on the crowds?

Because they were harassed and helpless. They did not have a leader who cared for them.

A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean."⁴¹ Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!"⁴² Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured. Mark 1:40-42

19. Read Mark 1:40-42. When a man with leprosy begged Jesus to make him clean, how did Jesus feel and how did He respond?

He was filled with compassion; Jesus felt concern and desired to help. He then reached out His hand, touched the man and healed him.

20. Would you have been willing to serve in such a leper colony? Yes No Maybe (Circle One)

Personal Answer

21. What do you think gave Father Damien the courage and ability to give up his life for such physically and spiritually unattractive individuals?

The only way Father Damien or any of us can have real compassion is through Jesus. Other answers may be God, the Holy Spirit or prayer. The point being our selflessness comes from God alone.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.⁵ For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows. 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

22. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-5. What is God telling you through these verses?

Personal Answer

II. Mercy

Definition: Mercy can be defined as kindness or forgiveness toward another person, especially one in another's power.

23. Prayerfully consider who you need to show mercy to this week. In other words, is there someone that you need to forgive or to show a special kindness? Write how God leads you and what happened?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, prayerfully consider a thoughtful response.

Read Psalm 1:1 and answer questions 24-25:

Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. Psalm 1:1

24. Does God bless men and women who do not follow sinners? **Yes** No (Circle One)

25. Were Jesus and His disciples taking advice and instruction from sinners? Yes **No** (Circle One)

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.⁹ He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way. Psalm 25:8

26. Read Psalm 25:8. Does God instruct sinners in His ways? **Yes** No (Circle One)

But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.'" Matthew 9:13 (Jesus quoted Hosea 6:6)

27. Jesus answers the Pharisees in Matthew 9:13. He says, "But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Let us look at how "The Message" and the "New Living Translation" translate Matthew 9:13:

11 "What kind of example is this from your Teacher, acting cozy with crooks and riffraff?"

12-13 *Jesus, overhearing, shot back, "Who needs a doctor: the healthy or the sick? Go figure out what this Scripture means: 'I'm after mercy, not religion.' I'm here to invite outsiders, not coddle insiders."*^{MSG}

Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to be merciful; I don't want your sacrifices.' For I have come to call sinners, not those who think they are already good enough."^{NLT}

28. In Matthew 9:13, what does God mean when He says, "I desire mercy and not sacrifice"?

God wants us to be merciful as He is merciful. He wants us to have a heart like His. He desires us to forgive others and help them know Him. God desires that we act out of our deep love and devotion to Him and not lifeless rules and animal sacrifices.

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.²⁹ If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic.³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back.
Luke 6:27-30

29. Read Luke 6:27-30. For the next week, practice living in Jesus' "mercy" commands. Write of one experience God gave you during this time:

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, prayerfully consider a thoughtful response.

30. Memorize Luke 6:27-30. Write your verses from memory without looking at notes:

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.²⁹ If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic.³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back.

Personal Application: Read the Parable of the Unmerciful Servant: Matthew 18:21-35

Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?" Matthew 18:33

Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to convict you (to show guilt) of any unmerciful acts that you have done or any unmerciful attitudes that you have in your heart. With each remembrance ask God if there is anything that He would like for you to do about it now. Do it immediately. Ask God's forgiveness in the blood of Christ and move on in mercy in the power of the Holy Spirit.

31. How have you been unmerciful and what does God want you to do about it?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, prayerfully consider a thoughtful response. Pray that your 'learner' will be successful in doing whatever the Lord is asking him or her to do.

Lesson 14: The Tender Heart of Leadership (Day Three) The Royal Cloth of Sympathy

III. Sympathy

Definition: Sympathetic means that one has the ability to share another's emotions or sensations.

Read John 11:32-35 and answer questions 32-35:

When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled.³⁴ "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied.³⁵ Jesus wept.
John 11:32-35

32. When Jesus saw Mary and the other mourners weeping, how do you think He felt and what was His response (v. 35)?

Jesus was sympathetic. He was deeply moved and troubled; He wept.

33. Are you able to share in another's grief and pain? Yes No Sometimes (Circle One)

Personal Answer

34. In regard to your answer above, explain why or why not you are able to sympathize with others?

Personal Answer

35. How may we pray for you in this regard?

Personal Prayer Request - Bible Minister, Please make sure you pray and let your 'learner' know that you have prayed. Pray yourself to make an appropriate comment for encouragement and motivation to grow and mature in Christ.

Read Romans 12:15-16a and answer questions 36-38:

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Romans 12:15-16a

36. In addition to mourning with those who mourn, what are two other things we should do?

(1. Rejoice with those who rejoice. (2. Live in harmony with one another.

37. Which is easier for *you*, to be sympathetic in one's suffering or in his or her joy? Why?

Personal Answer

38. How will wearing the cloth of sympathy help you to live in harmony with one another?

Understanding and sharing another's feelings helps us to understand them and their motivations. When we are trying to feel and walk in another's shoes, it helps with agreement and bonding. It would be difficult to argue and disagree when you are trying to understand another's circumstance or situation.

IV. Empathy

Definition: Empathy is similar to sympathy but takes feelings deeper. Empathy is the ability to identify oneself mentally with a person and understand his or her feelings, motives and particular situation. In a sense, as you empathize, you become the other person.

Read Hebrews 2:17-18 and answer questions 39-41:

For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. Hebrews 2:17-18

39. In what way was Jesus made like people (v. 17a)?

In every way.

40. What was the purpose of Jesus being made like you and me (v. 17b,c)?

In order that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest and make atonement for the sins of the people.

41. Why do you think Jesus is empathetic in your suffering and pain (v.18)?

During His earthly life, Jesus was challenged with many trials and temptations as well as suffering extreme emotional and physical pain. He truly understands and has felt rejection and loss personally.

Personal Application:

42. Write your memory verses, Philippians 2:3-8, without referring to your Bible or notes:

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.⁴ Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.⁵ Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

43. Pray and practice being a sympathetic and empathetic leader this week and answer the following question. What did you learn or discover about yourself from this experience?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, prayerfully consider a thoughtful response.

Lesson 14: The Tender Heart of Leadership (Day Four) The Royal Cloth of Sensitivity**V. Sensitivity**

Definition: Sensitivity means responsiveness or openness through one's senses of sight, hearing, touch, taste or smell. It is also an awareness and understanding of the feelings of other people.

but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me. John 14:31

44. Read John 14:31. What are the two things that the world must learn?

(1. **Jesus loves the Father.** (2. **Jesus does exactly what God the Father has commanded Him.**

The magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." But Pharaoh's heart was hard and he would not listen, just as the LORD had said. Exodus 8:19

45. Read Exodus 8:19. Who had a hard heart and was not responsive to God?

Pharaoh

They made their hearts as hard as flint and would not listen to the law or to the words that the LORD Almighty had sent by his Spirit through the earlier prophets. So the LORD Almighty was very angry.¹³ "When I called, they did not listen; so when they called, I would not listen," says the LORD Almighty. Zechariah 7:12-13

Read Zechariah 7:12-13 and answer questions 46-49:

46. Did God's people, the Israelites make their hearts hard as flint (v.12)? **Yes** No (Circle One)

47. How did the Israelites respond to the law and God's words through the prophets (v.12)?

They would not listen.

48. Was the LORD Almighty very angry (v.12)? **Yes** No (Circle One)

49. How does God respond to people with hard hearts that are not sensitive toward Him? (v.13)

He does not listen; does not hear or answer their prayers.

Read John 12:42-43 and answer questions 50-53:

Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue;⁴³ for they loved praise from men more than praise from God. John 12:42-43 (confess - admit, say clearly)

50. Can a person believe Jesus is the Son of God and still have a hard and unresponsive heart (v.42)? Yes **No** (Circle One)

51. What is one reason that people believe in Jesus and yet do not respond to Him (vs.42-43)?

People love praise from men more than praise from God. In other words, they are more concerned with what people think of them rather than God. Fear of man rather than fear of God.

52. Why do you think some people are more sensitive to other humans rather than to God (v.43)?

Same answer as above. Might add that these people love themselves more than God and thus care more what others think of them.

53. How should *you* respond to Jesus?

Personal Answer - but we should all trust in Him and surrender our will in everything. We should care more what God thinks than anyone else.

See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. Hebrews 3:12

54. Read Hebrews 3:12. Could you or any Christian leader be in danger of developing a hard heart? Why or why not?

Yes, because the apostle Paul is writing to believers and warning them of this possibility.

But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. Hebrews 3:13

55. According to Hebrews 3:13, what is one way that you can lead and help others have a soft heart toward God?

Encourage others.

Note: You can support and cheer on one another in many ways (Ephesians 5:19-20). However, the encouragement is centered on God. It is not about making someone feel good about himself apart from Christ, but in Christ. Therefore, encourage saints (i.e. other believers) daily in order that they remain strong and sensitive toward God.

Personal Application:

56. Ask God to tenderize your heart and to give you practical ways to develop sensitivity. What are some of the ways God has led you in developing a soft heart?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, prayerfully consider a thoughtful response.

Lesson 14: The Tender Heart of Leadership (Day Five) The Royal Cloth of Love**VI. Love**

Definition: We are going to define love in terms of the Greek word *agapao* (ἀγαπάω). It means to place first in one's affections and is often used of Christian love. It also means to show or prove one's care or fondness for another.

Read Matthew 5:44 and answer questions 57-59:

But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,⁴⁵ that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.⁴⁶ If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that?⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. Matthew 5:44-48

57. According to the definition of love above, describe how you are to treat your enemies.

We are to show our care and fondness for them as well as praying for them.

58. Why is it so difficult to love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you?

Personal Answer - but it goes against our human nature to be kind to those who hurt or ignore us. It does not make sense on the human level to desire good for the people who hate us and want us to fail.

59. What motivation (inspiration) do you get from these verses to love and pray for enemies?

Personal Answer - but we are motivated or inspired to love and pray for our enemies because if we do, we are sons (women, too) of our Father in heaven. We are acting just like our heavenly Father.

We love because he first loved us.²⁰ If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen.²¹ And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother. 1 John 4:19-21

Read 1 John 4:19-21 and answer questions 60-62:

60. Why are we able to love (v.19)?

We love because he first loved us.

61. Can you love God and hate others (v.20)? Yes **No** (Circle One)

62. Write the command of verse 21:

Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Personal Application:

63. Review all the colors of your royal robe of tenderness: (1) compassion, (2) mercy, (3) sympathy, (4) empathy, (5) sensitivity and (6) love. Which one needs the most development and what will you do to improve this characteristic?

Personal Answer - Bible Minister, prayerfully consider a thoughtful response. Pray that your 'learner' will be successful in doing whatever the Lord is asking him or her to do.

- End Lesson 14 -

Next: Lesson 15: The Leader in Worship

Rev 7/10/2014

