

# Contend For the Faith

## Session 5: Looking for Mercy and Compassion

Not only do we need to maintain ourselves in the love of God, looking for His mercy, but we also need to extend that same attitude towards those we encounter. All of mankind has been sanctified by God and preserved in Jesus, but not everyone knows that! We are told to earnestly contend for the common salvation that God has delivered to all.

**Jude1:21** Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.**22** And of some have compassion, making a difference: **23** And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

There are those who do not have a revelation of God's provision, and there are those who have had a revelation of God's righteousness but through deception have unknowingly returned to the ways of the law. This is producing condemnation and spiritual darkness for those involved.

**2Peter 2:19** *While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. 20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. 2:21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered*

Jesus came to set the captives free. He did not come to condemn people. He came to condemn the lie that is holding them captive. He tells us to have mercy and compassion on them and to proclaim the truth that will set them free from the lies that they have believed. **1 Peter 1:12**

**Luke 6:35-36** Children of the highest are kind and merciful to their enemies, and are merciful as the Father is merciful

***John 15:9** As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.*

### **What is the message that we are bringing to the people that God loves?**

Do we really have a revelation of the success of the cross?  
ONLY LOVE CAN INITIATE LOVE. The number one priority God has for our lives is to understand how much God loves us because if we don't understand how much he loves us, we can't minister God's love and compassion to the people of the world.

**2 Peter 1:17** Jesus had to understand how much the Father loved Him before he could continue

***2Peter 1:17** For he received from God the Father honor and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

**Jesus was trained** (as the Father has loved me) **to assume the work of the Father** (love others).

***Joh 5:19** Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. **20** For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that*

*ye may marvel. **21** For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will.*

The Father gave the son a revelation of His love for him and this equipped the son to love others as the Father loved him. Every response to the circumstances that he faced and every interaction with the people He came in contact with was a direct reflection of the love that He was loved with. Jesus only did what the Father spoke to Him; He loved! He duplicated His Fathers works!

***21** For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickens them; even so the Son quickens whom he will.*

*Quickens-make Spiritually alive by a revelation of Gods love*

The Father placed all judgment into the hands of the son.

***22** For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:*

**24 -25** Those that hear the words of the Son and believe that God loves them will will live!

**John 8:15** I judge no man after the flesh

**John 8:23-24** if you don't get a revelation of the truth, you will continually feel condemned and guilty.

**John 8:31-32** if you continue in my word (**John 15:9**) you will know the truth (**God loves you**) and that truth will set you free from the condemnation of the flesh (**2 Peter 2:29, Jude 1:21-23**).

**John 12:44-50** If any man hear my words and believe not, I judge Him not (**by the standards of the flesh**) but the words my Father commanded me to speak will judge him and His commandment ifs life everlasting. Jesus judged the world by Gods standard-love!

Jesus is the light of the World. **John 12:46**

He is the savior of the World. **John 12:47**

He bore our burdens and lay down his life for us.

The love that He showed us initiated our love for God and that in return initiates our love for others. **Love is not initiated by obligation, fear or a sense of duty! Only love initiates love!**

### **CONTINUE...**

**JOHN 15:12** *This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. 13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. 15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: (does not have a revelation of Gods love) but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father (I love you John 15:19) I have made known unto you.*

**16** *Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask (demand what is due-Jude 1:1, 2 Peter 2:3-4) of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*

He shows us all things (**John 5:19-20 that he was shown**) so that we can continue to do the work of the Father. He tells us to love one another, to lay down our lives for one another and to bear each other's burdens.

All judgment has been placed into our hands. He judges no one!

**John 20:21** *Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: 23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.*

We are the light of the world and the salt of the earth. We are His

ministers of reconciliation. The love that we show others initiates their love towards God.

The disciples once had a discussion over who was the greatest. The greatest are secure in God's provision and love for them and CONTINUE in that love!

**Luke 22:24** *And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest. 25 And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. 26 But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. 27 For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth. 28 Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. 29 And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me;*

Until you see yourself as the beloved son sitting at the place of honor being served by Jesus, you can't see others sitting in that same position.

**Mark 9:50 KJV** *Salt is good: but if the salt (**being secure in love**) have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another*

The most powerful force in the world is love, but if you are not made perfect in love, or if you have forgotten how much God loves you, you can't CONTINUE in that love! The salt has lost its savor!

We have been made Holy by God and preserved in Jesus!

Earnestly contend for the common salvation and proclaim its message to the world.

**Psalms 96:2** Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew forth his salvation (**declare the good news that sets people free from condemnation, that releases them from bondage, that**

**brings healing and prosperity)** from day to **Psalms 96:3**  
Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all  
people.

Are we declaring His wonders and the success of the cross to the people we come in contact with?

Mickey received a word from God we would begin to be involved with a different kind of evangelization. How do we evangelize people? We simply approach people with the same love and compassion that Jesus approached people with.

People recognize our motives and the intent of our heart when we approach them. They recognize hidden agendas. Are we more in love with the message than we are in love with people? Are we telling people that if they don't repent of their sins God can't love them and they will go to hell, or are we telling people that God loves them so much that he wants to deliver them from the things that are bringing condemnation into their lives? The love of God disarms people! When we present the Father and Jesus in such a way they feel free to boldly to them in their time of need, they will find what they are looking for. **Hebrews 4:14-16** God loves man so much that he has provided everything that he will need in order to live a victorious life. Man just doesn't know that! That is the true message! We have seen walls go down and more people open up their hearts to the Gospel by simply being Jesus to the people.

In Salinas Ecuador God used our team to raise a baby from the dead. That act of compassion caused people to follow us like they followed Jesus. In Machala, Ecuador we ministered the love of God in a park. We simply told people that God loved them unconditionally and He wanted to minister to their needs. The people voluntarily came to us after they saw what we were doing. In fact they lined up to wait for their turn.

In Nicaragua we went through out the neighborhoods proclaiming Gods love for the people in the same manner. On the following Monday, the pastor of a church in the area called and said, "How

did you do that? On Sunday my church was full of people from the neighborhood where you ministered. Not only did they come to church but they wanted to be saved. We have tried to get people from the neighborhood to come to church for years with no success."

The field is ripe unto harvest! The whole world is waiting for the "sons of God to manifest themselves."

**John 15:9** As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you, continue in my love.

