



## [Matthew 14:14](#)

(14) And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.

## [Mark 6:34](#)

(34) And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things.

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[Jesus](#) is "moved with compassion" when He sees the needy multitudes exhausted and wandering like sheep that had been tattered from cruel fleecing. Twice He is "moved with compassion" when He sees the hungry multitudes without food ([Matthew 14:14](#); [15:32](#)). The two blind men ([Matthew 20:34](#)) and the leper ([Mark 1:41](#)) also stir His compassion, as does the sorrow of the widow at Nain ([Luke 7:13](#)).

In addition, Jesus uses the word translated "compassion" in three of His [parables](#): The king has compassion on his bankrupt servant and forgives him his debt, showing how we should forgive one another ([Matthew 18:21-35](#)). The Samaritan has compassion on the Jewish victim and cares for him in [love](#) ([Luke 10:25-37](#)). Finally, the father has compassion on his rebellious son ([Luke 15:20](#)).

We, too, should show compassion toward others. Compassion, a fundamental and distinctive quality of [God](#), is literally "a feeling with and for others." It lies at the foundation of Israel's [faith](#) in God because, in an act of compassion, He delivered them from slavery and called them to be His own people. His compassion does not fail ([Lamentations 3:22](#)). Jesus teaches that it should be extended, not only to friends and neighbors, but to all, even to our enemies.

— Martin G. Collins

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