

The background is a light blue gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

THE GOD IMPULSE VI


LUKE 6:36 BE MERCIFUL, JUST AS YOUR FATHER IS
MERCIFUL. NIV



- THE GOOD SAMARITAN **SAW AND “FELT”** MERCY FOR THE BEATEN ENEMY!

- **THE SMARTIAN WENT TO HIM.** LUKE 10:34

- **LUKE 10:33-35** GOING OVER TO HIM, THE SAMARITAN SOOTHED HIS WOUNDS WITH OLIVE OIL AND WINE AND BANDAGED THEM. THEN HE PUT THE MAN ON HIS OWN DONKEY AND TOOK HIM TO AN INN, WHERE HE TOOK CARE OF HIM. 35 THE NEXT DAY HE HANDED THE INNKEEPER TWO SILVER COINS, TELLING HIM, 'TAKE CARE OF THIS MAN.





- 3 STEPS TO BEING MERCIFUL

- EMOTIONAL – SAW AND FELT COMPASSION

- INTELLECTUAL – THINKING - IT JUST MAKES SENSE TO DO IT!

- SACRIFICIAL – FOLLOWING CHRIST EXAMPLE

- WE CAN SEE THE NEEDS AROUND US, WE CAN FEEL THE URGE TO DO SOMETHING, WE CAN SPEND A LOT OF TIME THINKING ABOUT IT, **TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT REQUIRES SOMETHING OF US!!!**

- LOOK AGAIN AT THE PARABLE IN **LUKE 10:25-37**



THE SAMARITAN:

- BANDAGED THE MAN'S WOUNDS.
 - HE Poured OIL AND WINE ON THE WOUNDS—AGAIN, PRICEY STUFF BACK IN THE DAY, MERCHANDISE WORTH TREASURING AND TRADING.
- THEN THE SAMARITAN TOOK THE TRAVELER TO AN INN AND GAVE THE INNKEEPER TWO DENARII FOR THE MAN'S ROOM AND BOARD.
- THE SAMARITAN DIDN'T SIMPLY GIVE UP HIS FIRST AND BEST, HE WAS FLAT-OUT GENEROUS.
 - A SILVER DENARII—THE COIN OF THE REALM IN ANCIENT ROME—WOULD'VE BEEN ENOUGH TO KEEP THE TRAVELER THERE FOR TWO OR THREE WEEKS.
- LET'S NOT FORGET, THE SAMARITAN SPENT THAT FIRST NIGHT CARING FOR THIS BEATEN MAN HIMSELF.
- **THAT'S THE VERY DEFINITION OF HANDS-ON CARE.**
- I AM ASKING MYSELF THE QUESTION- SO WHAT KEEPS US, OR HOLDS US BACK?

REMEMBER THE CONTEXT OF THE PARABLE TO BEGIN WITH

LUKE 10:25-29 ONE DAY AN EXPERT IN RELIGIOUS LAW STOOD UP TO TEST JESUS BY ASKING HIM THIS QUESTION: "TEACHER, WHAT SHOULD I DO TO INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE?"

26 JESUS REPLIED, "WHAT DOES THE LAW OF MOSES SAY? HOW DO YOU READ IT?"

27 THE MAN ANSWERED, "'YOU MUST LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, ALL YOUR SOUL, ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND ALL YOUR MIND.' AND, 'LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'"

28 "RIGHT!" JESUS TOLD HIM. "DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE!"

29 THE MAN WANTED TO JUSTIFY HIS ACTIONS, SO HE ASKED JESUS, "AND WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?"

- JESUS USES THIS PARABLE TO SHOW US WHAT BIBLICAL LOVE FOR OUR NEIGHBOR (AND ENEMY) SHOULD REALLY LOOK LIKE!
 - IT INVOLVES THE SAMARITAN'S EYES – **HE SAW**
 - IT ENGAGES HIS EMOTIONS(**FEEL**).
 - IT CONCERNS HIS MIND AND JUDGEMENT, GUIDING HIM WHETHER HE SHOULD GO (**COUNTING THE COST**).
 - IT THEN AFFECTS HIS WILL, GIVING EVERYTHING NECESSARY TO HELP NOT JUST A MAN BUT A STRANGER – AND SOMEONE WHO MIGHT WELL VIEW HIM AS A HATED, UNTOUCHABLE ENEMY. (**DO**)
- TIM KELLER WRITES OF THIS PARABLE, “OUR LORD ATTACKS THE COMPLACENCY OF COMFORTABLY RELIGIOUS PEOPLE WHO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM THE NEEDS OF OTHERS.”

DISPLACEMENT AND SERVANTHOOD:

- DOING ALWAYS INVOLVES A COMPLICATED WORD – ***DISPLACEMENT***.
 - THE MINUTE WE DO, WE GET ON SOMEONE ELSE'S AGENDA, THEY ARE IN NEED OF OUR TIME, ENERGY AND RESOURCES.
- WE END UP WITH DISPLACED PRIORITIES, SCHEDULES, RESOURCES AND HEARTS!
- HENRI NOUWEN, A CATHOLIC PRIEST, C21 RESOURCES, 1 SEPTEMBER 2014
 - “IT IS URGENT THAT WE RECLAIM THIS GREAT TRADITION OF DISPLACEMENT . . . **IT LEADS TO COMPASSION; BY BRINGING US CLOSER TO OUR BROKENNESS IT OPENS OUR EYES TO OUR FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS, WHO SEEK OUR CONSOLATION AND COMFORT.**”

SERVANTHOOD MAKES US “DISAPPEAR,” BECAUSE WHEN WE DIMINISH OURSELVES, IT IS EASIER TO HAVE FELLOWSHIP AND LOVE OTHERS.

- JOHN 3:30 HE MUST BECOME GREATER AND GREATER, AND I MUST BECOME LESS AND LESS. NLT
- MATTHEW 20:25-28 BUT JESUS CALLED THEM TOGETHER AND SAID, "YOU KNOW THAT THE RULERS IN THIS WORLD LORD IT OVER THEIR PEOPLE, AND OFFICIALS FLAUNT THEIR AUTHORITY OVER THOSE UNDER THEM. 26 BUT AMONG YOU IT WILL BE DIFFERENT. WHOEVER WANTS TO BE A LEADER AMONG YOU MUST BE YOUR SERVANT, 27 AND WHOEVER WANTS TO BE FIRST AMONG YOU MUST BECOME YOUR SLAVE. 28 FOR EVEN THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT TO BE SERVED BUT TO SERVE OTHERS AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE AS A RANSOM FOR MANY." NLT
- IN BUSINESS AND IN LIFE, SO OFTEN WE TRY TO BUILD A RESUME THAT MAKES US DIFFERENT AND REMARKABLE. DISPLACEMENT REVERSES THIS PROCESS.

DO – RELATIONALLY CONNECTING OR OUTSOURCED COMPASSION?

- NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING SEGMENTS OF OUR ECONOMY. THERE ARE 1.6 MILLION OF THEM NOW, AND TOGETHER THEY REPRESENT 9 PERCENT OF OUR ECONOMY. MANY OF THESE PROVIDE CRUCIAL, NON-DUPLICABLE SERVICES IN THE UNITED STATES AND AROUND THE WORLD.
- IN 2016 AMERICANS GAVE MORE THAN \$390 BILLION TO CHARITIES, THE MOST EVER.
- AT THE SAME TIME ABOUT 62.6 MILLION PEOPLE DONATED THEIR TIME. THIS MAY SEEM LIKE A LOT BUT IT REPRESENTS ANOTHER STEP IN A DECADE-LONG DECLINE.
 - **WE'RE GIVING MORE BUT SERVING LESS.**
- EXPERTS ARE MYSTIFIED BY THIS DICHOTOMY. WHY IS GIVING INCREASING WHILE VOLUNTEERING IS DECREASING?
- **THE ANSWER LIES IN OUR FAILURE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT MERCY'S REALLY ALL ABOUT.**

REAL DISPLACEMENT – THE HURDLE OF FORGIVENESS

- BEYOND HELPING THE NEEDY OR SERVING THE POOR WE NEED TO CROSS A THRESHOLD THAT FOR MANY IS THE MOST CHALLENGING OF ALL – FORGIVENESS!
- THE GOD IMPULSE OF FORGIVENESS:
 - **LUKE 23:33-34** WHEN THEY CAME TO A PLACE CALLED THE SKULL, THEY NAILED HIM TO THE CROSS. AND THE CRIMINALS WERE ALSO CRUCIFIED—ONE ON HIS RIGHT AND ONE ON HIS LEFT.
 - 34 JESUS SAID, "FATHER, FORGIVE THEM, FOR THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY ARE DOING." AND THE SOLDIERS GAMBLED FOR HIS CLOTHES BY THROWING DICE.
 - **ACTS 7:59-60** AS THEY STONED HIM, STEPHEN PRAYED, "LORD JESUS, RECEIVE MY SPIRIT." 60 HE FELL TO HIS KNEES, SHOUTING, "LORD, DON'T CHARGE THEM WITH THIS SIN!" AND WITH THAT, HE DIED.
 - **1 TIMOTHY 1:12-14** I THANK CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD, WHO HAS GIVEN ME STRENGTH TO DO HIS WORK. HE CONSIDERED ME TRUSTWORTHY AND APPOINTED ME TO SERVE HIM, 13 EVEN THOUGH I USED TO BLASPHEME THE NAME OF CHRIST. IN MY INSOLENT, I PERSECUTED HIS PEOPLE. BUT GOD HAD MERCY ON ME BECAUSE I DID IT IN IGNORANCE AND UNBELIEF. 14 OH, HOW GENEROUS AND GRACIOUS OUR LORD WAS! HE FILLED ME WITH THE FAITH AND LOVE THAT COME FROM CHRIST JESUS.

- ACCOUNTING – DEBTS AND ASSETS

DEBTS	ASSETS
I HAVE WRONGED YOU!	I WILL CONTINUE TO HOLD THIS AGAINST YOU!
WILL YOU FORGIVE ME?	YES I FORGIVE YOU!
DEBT FREE	TOTALLY FORGIVEN AND GONE
1 Corinthians 13	Hebrews 8:12

When it comes to love, forgiveness is critical. These three sides of mercy—feeling, thinking, and doing (or if you'd rather, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual)—are absolutely critical to understanding God's character and following his impulse.

- MANY EXPERTS BELIEVE *LES MISÉRABLES* IS ONE OF THE GREATEST BOOKS EVER WRITTEN. PENNED BY VICTOR HUGO AND PUBLISHED IN 1862, IT WAS TRANSFORMED INTO A MUSICAL IN 1980 AND HAS RUN CONTINUALLY ON LONDON'S FAMED WEST END SINCE 1985. IT WAS ADAPTED INTO AN OSCAR NOMINATED FILM IN 2012.

- [HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/WF3FX43F-7Y](https://youtu.be/WF3FX43F-7Y)

- **PROVERBS 19:11** GOOD SENSE MAKES ONE SLOW TO ANGER, AND IT IS HIS GLORY TO OVERLOOK AN OFFENSE. ESV

- **PSALM 8:5** YET YOU MADE THEM ONLY A LITTLE LOWER THAN GOD AND CROWNED THEM WITH GLORY AND HONOR. NLT

- WE WERE MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD, CROWNED WITH GLORY AND HONOR. WHEN WE OVERLOOK PEOPLE'S SINS, FAULTS, AND INSULTS WE ARE LIVING UP TO THE GODLIKE, GLORIOUS IMAGE GOD HAS PLACED WITHIN US, THAT OUR OWN SIN HAS TRIED TO SO FURIOUSLY ERASE!

- JESUS HIMSELF POINTED US TO THE IMAGE OF HIS FATHER AS HE DECLARED "BE MERCIFUL, JUST AS YOUR FATHER IS MERCIFUL". LUKE 6:36 NIV

I CAN ONLY IMAGINE:

- WE CAN BE BOTH ARTHUR AND BART, THOSE WHO HAVE HURT AND NEED MERCY AND FORGIVENESS AND THOSE IN THEIR OWN HURT WHO ARE IN A PRISON OF PAIN AND WOUNDEDNESS BECAUSE THEY CAN'T EXTEND MERCY!
- WE SIN. WE HURT. WE HUNGER FOR HELP. WE THIRST FOR MERCY. WE ARE BOTH INNOCENT AND GUILTY IN NEED OF MERCY! WE NEED A GOOD SAMARITAN TO PICK US UP OFF THE GROUND AND TAKES US TO A PACE OF SAFETY.
- **GOD SEE US. HE HEARS OUR CRIES. HE REACHES DOWN TO TOUCH US AND HEAL US.**
- **MOST OFTEN WE STRUGGLE AND WRESTLE, AND HAVE A HARD TIME DOING THE SAME FOR OTHERS!**
- DIVINE MERCY GOES BEYOND WHAT WE FEEL IN THE MOMENT, WHAT WE MIGHT BE THINKING WOULD BE PRACTICAL.
- **THE MORE CHALLENGING THE IMPULSE IS TO FOLLOW THE MORE TRANSFORMATIVE IT CAN BE!!!**

