

WE ARE WOL – PART 3: CARING
SCRIPTURE: LUKE 4:18–19;
MATTHEW 25:31–40 & JAMES 2:14–17
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INTRODUCTION

- WOL Core Values: Relationships, Sending, Caring, Equipping and Healing.
 - Community – who we are together.
 - Mission – what we do for and carry into the world.
 - Formation – how we become like Jesus.
 - Relationships shape *community*.
 - Sending and Caring express *mission*.
 - Equipping and Healing deepen *formation*.

I. HE MADE THE FIRST MOVE

- Luke 4 is Jesus' announcement of who He is and what His ministry will look like.
- Luke 4:18-19 NLT, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor...”
- Jesus never treated hurting people as interruptions to His ministry.

II. THE LEAST OF THESE

- Sympathy sees pain. Compassion moves towards it.
- Matthew 25:31-40 NLT, “...And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’”

- Compassion is love that closes the gap between us and someone else's pain.
 - This doesn't mean we can meet every need.
 - It does mean we cannot allow the size of the need to become an excuse for doing nothing.
- Jesus is emphasizing that we cannot claim to love Him and avoid the people He loves.

CLOSE

- James 2:14-17 NLT, “What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions?...So you see, faith by itself isn't enough...”
- Who is Jesus asking me to *move toward*?
- We move toward the hurting because Jesus first move toward us.

ADDITIONAL NOTES
