

Let me ask you a question... **What's important to you?** Stop for just a second and think about it –

If you really want to get to know <u>SOMEONE</u> you would have to find out what is important to them and make that important to you.

If we really want to know **GOD**, we have to find out what is important to Him and make that important to us.

Did you know that God has a vision? He does. His vision is to see His table in Heaven full of people just like you from every culture, background, race, and tribe.

PEOPLE are important to God...

And when it comes to people - God is especially mindful of the poor...

God has always made provision for the poor...

Deuteronomy 24:19 gleanings/blessings
Isaiah 58 fasting to share your bread with the hungry
Matthew 6

The poor have no **VOICE**.

But, It is one thing to reach out to the poor because of the command... But how much more powerful is it to fulfill the command because of compassion?

So, what's love got to do with it? **EVERYTHING!**

JESUS WAS MOVED WITH COMPASSION

Examples of Jesus

- a. Matthew 9:36 Sheep without a shepherd
- b. Matthew 14:14 For the multitude
- c. Matthew 20:34 Two blind men

Three Steps to Loving the Poor

1 Build a bridge/connect – people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care... we must meet people at the point of their need.

Connecting is so critical if we are ever going to reach them or show that we love them.

Mark 8:35 -

To follow Jesus will mean that you will take a piece of your life on a regular basis and <u>GIVE IT AWAY</u> for the benefit of others...

- 2 love people where they are
- 3 after you Show Jesus Share Jesus

So, people are important to God; make them important to you and you will really get to know Him and help the poor at the same time. He loves the poor and He wants you to as well... for Him.