

# Compassion

## SERMON NOTES AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- I. Introduction
  - a. Review
- II. Remember, we have an enemy that wants to steal our hearts from God
  - a. A stealing story: David, his men, and the Amalekites at Ziklag
- III. Find our Strength in the Lord
  - a. 1 Samuel 30:1-8
  - b. Following David's example: Living by God's Promises
- IV. Learn the Lesson of Besor: Choose Compassion
  - a. Recognize the importance of Besor through a boy and his drum
  - b. "Compassion is the sometimes fatal capacity for feeling what it's like to live inside somebody else's skin. It is the knowledge that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy finally for you." -Frederick Buechner
- V. How do we choose compassion?
  - a. Receive God's Compassion
    - i. God only wants to do through you what he has already done to you
- VI. Conclusion

## Discussion Questions

### Sharing Life Together

1. Share a time when you experienced profound compassion.
2. When do you find it hard to have compassion for others?

### Reflecting on the Message Together

1. Read 1 Samuel 30. What stands out to you about this story?
2. What do you think it would have been like to be a part of the 200 men who were too tired to fight for their wives and children?
3. Why do you think the men didn't want to give the booty to the man who stayed behind?
4. Read Matthew 20:1-16. How does this parable give insight into the story of David at Besor? Who do you identify with most in these two stories? Why?
5. Is grace fair? Why or why not?
6. What were the reasons David gave for sharing with the men who had stayed behind?
7. What are steps we can take to nurture and cultivate compassion living?
8. How did God speak to you through the message?
9. How can we pray for one another?