



The Way of Discipleship

Brent Moody · Matthew 15:1–39 · Series: **The Way of Jesus**

INTRODUCTION

- In a general way, all the sermons we've been working through the Gospel of Matthew have to do with discipleship.
- There's a natural tension then that comes often with speaking truth and people not really wanting to hear truth.
- It is not a promise or a goal of the kingdom that we have physical blessings and that we never suffer discomfort or problems in this life.

1 Trust in the Power of Jesus

Matthew 15:32–38

- What is demonstrated over and over again in these stories is the reality of the need to trust in the power of Jesus.
- It's a reminder that the people of God often suffer violence at the hands of a hostile world.
- They're putting spiritual priority in their life over even physical needs, and Jesus appreciates that.
- In the midst of all of that, what we're called to do is trust in the one who is over all.
- It's an illustration of how faith has to grow through struggle.
- Whatever we're going through, whatever struggles we have in life, the answer to those is to trust in Jesus through them.

2 Truth: A Sincere Heart Seeking Truth

Matthew 15:7–9; Isaiah 29; Colossians 2:18–23

- What Jesus is after are our hearts, our desire to submit ourselves to his will and to do things in his ways.
- This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.
- Being offended doesn't make anyone right. Just because you're offended doesn't mean you're right. What makes us right is actually following Jesus, actually seeking truth.
- True discipleship is not about me making up a bunch of rules to follow. It's about seeking the heart of Jesus and doing the things the way he tells us to do them.
- The desire for truth was still there. They're seeking truth over comfort.
- Not to seek to confirm what we already believe, not to take comfort in the belief system we already have, but to actually seek truth even when it's uncomfortable.

3 Compassion: Love and Action

Matthew 14:14; Matthew 15:32; Matthew 10:16

- Twice in this text in chapters 14 and 15, we're told that Jesus had compassion.
- Jesus' compassion isn't restricted by human thinking. He goes beyond known boundaries.
- His compassion meets real needs. It's not about image. It's not about how things look. Compassion is not just emotions and feelings. It's love and action.
- Jesus shows real compassion, the kind of passion that actually helps the people around him.
- As people who follow Jesus, we do need to stand for truth. We do need to support the guiltless. We do need to feed the hungry.

THE CHALLENGE

We are growing in our desire to want to follow him and do things in his way and have an obedient heart, submitting ourselves to his will every step of the way. And when we fall, we get back up and we keep trying.

MY NOTES
