

# Group Conversation Guide

Week of January 19, 2025

**Series:** Stronger – Walking with Jesus and Growing in Faith  
**Title:** Service Through Love: Loving Others as Jesus Did  
**Scripture Focus:** Mark 10:45; Matthew 9:35-38

## Before Your Small Group Meeting:

- Attend or Watch Ronny Marmol's Message: [Churchatviera.com/live](https://Churchatviera.com/live)

## Icebreaker Question:

- Share about a time when someone went out of their way to serve you. How did it make you feel?

## Opening Prayer:

Ask God to open your hearts to His Word and to teach you how to love and serve others as Jesus did.

## Context

Jesus' mission was marked by *compassion* and *service*. Mark 10:45 reminds us that Jesus came not to be served, but to serve and give His life as a ransom for many. Service is not just an activity—it's a **posture of the heart** that reflects dying to self for the sake of others.

In Matthew 9:35-38, Jesus' compassion for the brokenness of people compelled Him toward action. We are called to follow His example by being aware of others' needs and taking responsibility to serve—both locally and globally.

## Group Study and Discussion

### Compassion Compels Us Toward Others

**Read:** Matthew 9:35

### Discuss:

1. How does Jesus' example of going to "all the cities and villages" challenge the way we think about serving others?
2. What are some specific ways you've seen or experienced the gospel in action through service?
3. How can proclaiming the gospel and acts of kindness work together in serving others?

## Compassion Compels Us Toward Brokenness

**Read:** Matthew 9:36

### **Discuss:**

1. Why do you think Jesus was moved with compassion when He saw the crowd?
2. In what ways does brokenness—whether emotional, spiritual, or physical—move you to act?
3. How can we cultivate a heart that sees and responds to the brokenness in the people around us?

## Compassion Compels Us Toward Action

**Read:** Matthew 9:37-38

### **Discuss:**

1. Jesus mentions the need for laborers in the harvest. What does this mean in the context of serving others?
2. How does prayer help prepare our hearts to take action?
3. What does it mean for you personally to pray, give, go, or send in response to the gospel mission?

## Worship Together

- "Give Me Your Eyes" by Brandon Heath - <https://youtu.be/P5AkNqLuVgY?si=fLr0P5JmHs1X-l8H>

## Moving to Action

**Key Thought:** Awareness comes with responsibility. If not us, then who?

1. **Pray:** Begin by praying for the Lord to reveal how He is calling you to serve. Ask Him to give you a heart of compassion like Jesus.
2. **Give:** Look for opportunities to support gospel-centered ministries financially or with your time.
3. **Go:** Commit to serving in a specific area—whether in your church, local community, or even globally.
4. **Send:** Encourage others to join you in advancing the gospel mission.

### **Group Challenge:**

This week, identify one act of service you can do for someone in your circle. Share next week how this experience impacted you and the other person.

## Reflection

- How does Jesus' example of serving through love challenge you to align your actions with your faith?

**Closing Prayer:**

Close with a prayer asking God to give you the heart of a servant. Pray specifically for opportunities to serve others this week and for the courage to act with compassion.