

## **“Good Deeds”**

Acts 10.38, et al.

- Q: **What is your reaction to the phrase “Good Deeds”?**  
“mundane?” “warm fuzzies?” ....”on edge”
- Peter summarized Jesus’ life **“he went about doing good.”** [Acts 10.38]
- Acts 10.38 God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.
- (Last week) “Goodness” (humble and obedient like Jesus) is starting place to be restorative blessing. BUT To make an impact like Jesus, we not only need to ‘be good’ but ‘do good’
- James describes “true religion” as a combination of “being holy” and “caring for people in need”:[**James 1.27**]

**Big Idea: Be a restorative blessing with good deeds like Jesus!**

- Q: **How can we ‘go about doing good’ like Jesus?** (1st: What, 2nd: Why)

### **1. Jesus went about doing good BY alleviating human affliction [Matt 4.23-25]**

- [**vs23**] He went around 1) **proclaiming the good news** [next week], 2) **healing every disease and every affliction among the people.** [Vs 24] elaborates types of affliction
- As Jesus encountered people with problems > **he healed them** -  
Meaning of “heal” : **“serve someone with the goal to restore well-being”**
- Kinds of Human affliction in vs 24...

**Sick** - general term: “something is amiss” “experiencing difficulty” “not good”

- Anything devastating, frustrating, broken, unjust,... “Not good”
- Q: know someone dealing with **difficult situation** that you can “serve with the goal to restore well-being” (listening ear, helping hand, etc)

**Disease** - “physical injury, sickness”

- Q: Know of an **INDIVIDUAL** (outside of church) who is sick/injured?
- Q: Know of a **GROUP** experiencing sickness/injury that we can “serve with the goal to restore well-being”?
- **EXAMPLE: MCH (Bangladesh)** - the heart of ABWE’s ministry in Bangladesh

**Pains** - “trying torment”

- Lk 16.23 Jesus used “pains” to describe someone “in hades”. Sometimes life can feel like a living hell: abuse, human trafficking, loss, fear
- Q: Who in our community is walking around in silent torment?

**Oppressed** by demons [held captive to spiritual affliction]

- Q: know anyone living “in spiritual darkness”, trapped in lies, addiction, evil thinking?

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**Seizures** [lit. Moon struck, perhaps other “**neurological maladies**”, “**mental health issues**”]

- Sometimes it’s difficult to distinguish: mental/spiritual/physiological/chemical issues. BUT regardless - our default should be “**how can I serve with the goal to restore wellbeing?**”

**Paralytic** - “living with disability”

- Q: How can we serve those with disabilities?
- Are you starting to feel overwhelmed!? Affliction is everywhere we look! BUT...Even Jesus didn’t fix everything! BUT he went about doing **something**.
- RESULT: (of going about doing good) Notice what happened in Matt 4.23-25...  
V23 Jesus went about healing disease and affliction > **24 So his fame spread**  
V24 Jesus healed sick, diseased, pained, distressed, oppressed > **[25] And great crowds followed him...**
- He restored wellbeing wherever he went > his impact exploded
- EXAMPLE: From IMI’s newsletter:

*The Lord has opened up two new villages in [this region] and we are going to begin our outreach to these new children with backpacks and school supplies. I just returned... where I was in meetings with our teams, pastors and **government officials**. Since IM has been ministering... since 2003...we as a ministry have been closely watched, as are all NGOs. I **was personally thanked for the work we’ve done with the refugee children and their families and I was asked to expand our work in several areas.***

- Doing good > favor among unbelievers > open doors for the gospel.
- **Jesus went about doing good BY alleviating human affliction.**
- But **WHY** is at least as important! NOTot a PR strategy! Good PR is BYPRODUCT not Motivation!
- Why did Jesus help people who were sick? [Matthew 14.14]
- Why did Jesus help people who were troubled, discouraged, helpless?[Matthew 9.36 ]
- Why..feed hungry people?[Matt 15.32]
- Why did Jesus help people who were trapped in aimless spiritual confusion? [Mark 6.34]
- Why did Jesus minister to a grieving widow who now just lost her adult son?[Luke 7.13]

## **2. Jesus went about doing good OUT OF compassion [Mt 14.14]**

- To impact the world like Jesus did: not only need to adopt his deeds, but his heart!
- OK Question: “What can we do so people will listen to our message?”  
BETTER Q: “**How can we better love and care for people like Jesus did?**”
- The world is messed up - lots of pain, grief, needs BUT you can...**Be a restorative blessing with good deeds like Jesus!**

**CHALLENGE: Choose a hurt to heal**