

What is the Mind of Christ towards the Lost?

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Introduction: We face an ongoing challenge to see the world as Jesus does.

- A. When Jesus came to this world He saw things very differently than men.
 - 1. He knew where He had come from and what lay ahead for every man. **(Jn 8:38; 14:2)**
 - 2. He also knew that this world was a terrible battleground. He could see beyond the masks that people wore and saw the bondage of Satan.
 - 3. He always looked to the eternal destiny of all and always acted towards others with that set of priorities.
- B. What would we learn when we looked at why Jesus did what He did?
 - 1. What would we see in the footsteps of Christ?
 - 2. Rest assured you will not see many walking with you. Let's consider how Jesus viewed the lost.

I. How can we have the mind of Christ?

- A. We must die daily to have the mind of Christ. **(Phil 2:5-8)**
 - 1. How did Jesus go to the cross?
 - 2. The call of discipleship is not just a contribution to join a club. How can we have another's mind?
 - 3. We cannot be like Jesus with any pride and the desire to have it easy.
 - 4. Each of us must have the mind of a bondservant and not one of a master!
- B. What was the mind of Christ towards the lost?
 - 1. He saw that they were lost and He cared about it. **(Mt 9:36-38)**
 - 2. He went out of His way to know them and open their hearts. **(Lk 15:2-5)**
 - 3. His entire life could be defined by this. **(Lk 19:10)**
- C. Do you and I really have the mind of Christ?
 - 1. Do we ever go through a day thinking about who we see and what may be their eternal condition?
 - 2. Are we working within the abilities we have to reach out to other so that we might introduce them to Christ?
 - 3. If I honestly looked in the mirror and asked the question about the real purpose of my life, what would the answer be?
 - 4. If we would simply see others and love them as Jesus did, we would see some wonderful doors opened to us!

II. The mind of Christ will be effective in any man

- A. Consider the man who was severely demon possessed. **(Mk 5:2-5)**
 - 1. There is no indication that this man had any religious knowledge.
 - 2. He certainly had the worst reputation possible.
 - 3. When Jesus cast out the demons and was asked to leave it seems logical that he would take this man who was begging to go with him. **(Mk 5:15-18)**

4. Jesus told him to stay and gave him one thing that anyone who has been blessed by the Lord could do: "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you." **(Mk 5:19)**
 5. Could we do that? Do we?
 6. What were the results of this man's talking to others? **(Mk 5:20, Lk 8:40)**
- B. The mind of Christ is a mind of love.
1. What if we lived in Samaria at the time of the Syrian siege? **(2 Kings 6:24-25)**
 - a. Have you ever really been hungry?
 - b. If you could feed the starving, would you?
 2. In despair four leprous men find an empty camp! **(2 Kings 7:4-5)**
 - a. Can you imagine a camp filled with provisions for over 200,000 men? **(2 Kings 7:8)**
 - b. After risking your life for food, what would you now do?
 3. Even the lepers knew what any decent person would do. **(2 Kings 7:9)**
 - a. Do we have this same decency?
 - b. We do not have to guess, we face a greater famine and we have the provisions. What is the greatest need of all men today? **(Rom 1:16-18)**

III. The mind of Christ is a mind of faith

- A. Faith is not afraid of the cost or the sacrifice. **(Lk 14:28-30)**
1. Would you move to another city for the gospel's sake?
 2. What did the early Christians do when they had a move forced upon them? **(Acts 8:3-4)**
 3. Satan never quits. **(1 Pt 5:8)**
- B. Faith can see as God does and therefor is urgent! **(2 Cor 5:10-11)**
1. When we lose urgency then we fail to act.
 2. "There is an ancient story about three demons who were arguing over the best way to destroy the Christian mission in the world. The first demon says, "Let's tell all the Christians there is no heaven. Take away the reward incentive and the mission will collapse." The second demon says, "Let's tell all the Christians there is no hell. Take away the fear of punishment and the mission will collapse." The third demon says, "There is one better way. Let's tell all the Christians that there is no hurry" and all three immediately say, "That's it!"
- C. By faith God will open doors for us! **(Col 4:3-4)**
1. First make the mind of Christ your own. You will become passionate about this!
 2. Can you make Christ part of your everyday conversation? Your online identity?
 3. Can you find others with the mind of Christ and draw strength from them? **(Mal 3:16-18)**

Conclusion: What if every person here had the mind of Christ?