
Stand-Alone Message

TELL ME WHAT MOVES YOU

Matthew 9:35-38

By Josh McNall

Introduction: One worship song we sing at GCC (“Move Your Heart”) asks God repeatedly to “Tell me what moves you.”

We might expect the answer to this question to be radical acts of Christian obedience: martyrdom, missionary service, or a lifetime of generosity. But while God’s heart certainly *is* pleased by these examples of devotion, the Jesus of the Gospels repeatedly reveals an unexpected answer to the question of what moves God’s heart. Over and over, we read that Jesus was “moved with compassion” when we saw “the crowds.” Why so? And how might this insight into Christ’s character transform how we see ourselves, others, and God himself?

Applications:

1. When Jesus looked upon the crowds, his gut-level reaction was compassion.
2. What moved Jesus about the crowds was not their “put-togetherness” but their many needs

3. To be the church of Jesus is to look upon “the crowds” with that same posture of **Christ-like compassion.**

James 4:17