

# CREATIVE WAYS OF CARING FOR PEOPLE IN CRISIS

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## INTRODUCTION

What an exciting time to be a part of the church that Jesus is coming back for. Signs point to the great event of the rapture and because prophecy is being fulfilled we have an even greater opportunity to minister than ever before.

“And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold” (Matthew 24:12, *KJV*).

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those who are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof from such turn away” (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

These scriptures tell us that troubled times are here leaving a lot of people hurting without love, causing a time of crisis in lives that did not exist years ago. We as a church must be open to “creative ways of caring for people in crisis.”

## I. CARE ENOUGH TO ACT

“My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth” (John 3:18). The old saying, “People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care” has never been as true as it is today.

A. To care we must . . .

. . . *See people as Jesus sees them.* “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that *whosoever* believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16). A lot of people experience crisis because of their deeds and lifestyles.

We must be willing to look past faults and see the needs (ex.: the woman at the well).

B. We cannot be a respecter of persons because of age, race, or social status.

C. Listen to the needs with compassion.

## II. DREAM BIG!

“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Philippians 4:13). There is not a need brought to you that God does not have the means to meet through you where the need is:

A. *Spiritual*—“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the

captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised” (Luke 4:18).

- B. *Physical*—“And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people” (Luke 4:18).
- C. *Financial*—“The silver is mine and the gold is mine sayeth the Lord of hosts” (Haggai 2:8). (Money follows ministry).

### III. BE OPEN TO DIVERSITY AND CHANGE (Mark 2:3-12)

- A. Notice they had planned to come in the front door but had to change plans.
- B. They had to work together.
- C. The people were saying “We never saw it on this fashion.” There are as many ways to minister as there are people.

### IV. FOLLOW SIMPLE PRINCIPLES

With these simple principles God will give creative ways to care for people in crisis.

Examples:

- Food Bank
- Clothes Closet
- Battered Women's Shelter Grease, Groom & Grub Day
- Troubled Girl's Home
- Drug and Alcohol Addiction (Action Over Addiction)
- Jail Ministry
- Red Cross Center
- Christmas for Children of Inmates

It is not our job to bring people to Jesus but to bring Jesus to the people. We do this by caring for people. “By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another” (John 13:35).