LIVING HOPE DEMENTIA CAREGIVER SUPPORT COMMUNITY

Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions & Opening Prayer TBD
- Worship Music Well Done (Moriah Peters)
- Discussion Video His Grace is Enough: When You've Done It to the Least of These - Ed
- Open Discussion Carlos
- Prayer Requests Sharon
- Closing & Prayer Sharon

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When You've Done it unto the Least of These

Matthew 25 ESV

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'

Matthew 25 ESV

35 'For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you?'

Matthew 25 ESV

39 'And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

Main Idea

Every act of love toward someone who cannot repay you - especially a loved one with dementia - is received by Jesus Himself as worship.



- When our loved one forgets our name, struggles to speak, or needs help with basic tasks, Jesus says, "That's Me you're caring for."
- When we help someone who cannot say thank you, we're ministering to Jesus Himself. (Matthew 25:40)

 Every gentle word, every patient response to confusion, honors God.

31 Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.

(Proverbs 14:31 ESV)

- Feeding, bathing, dressing our loved one these are sacred acts of mercy.
 - 7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? (Isaiah 58:7 ESV)

 You are the neighbor who shows compassion when others walk away.

36 Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" 37 He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise." (Luke 10:36–37 ESV)

MIGRA OF CAREGIVING

- We are not "just" caregivers We are servants of Jesus, ministering to Him through every meal, every bath, every moment of patience.
- When we feed, comfort, or sit beside our loved one, we're doing it for Jesus. (Matthew 25:35–36)

- Every medication given, every soiled underwear changed, every sigh of exhaustion do it in Jesus' name.
- 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Colossians 3:17 ESV)
- "If you love Me, feed My sheep" (John 21:17) even when they forget who we are.

• True faith shows up in how we care for those who are most vulnerable.

27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

(James 1:27 ESV)

- We represent Jesus in our home, our facility, our family -His love flows through us.
- 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. (2 Corinthians 5:20 ESV)
- Our caregiving is not second-tier ministry It is frontline gospel work.
- We are the hands & feet of Jesus.



- Even when no one else notices, God does Our smallest acts of kindness echo in eternity.
- That sip of water, that gentle touch, that whispered prayer - none of it is forgotten.

41 For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward. (Mark 9:41 ESV)

 We pour out love daily; God promises to pour back into us.

27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. (Proverbs 3:27 ESV)

 When you can help & you choose love, you reflect God's heart.

38 give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." (Luke 6:38 ESV)

- The care we give behind closed doors is seen by our Father in heaven.
 - 4 "so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." (Matthew 6:4 ESV)
- We keep doing good, especially for those who can't return the favor God sees our faithfulness.
 - 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. (Galatians 6:10 ESV)

Discussion Questions

- How do you experience Jesus in your loved one's vulnerability - even when they can't respond or recognize you?
- What small act of compassion have you offered recently that felt ordinary - but might be sacred in God's eyes?
- How has caregiving changed your understanding of ministry or worship?
- What helps you stay encouraged when the caregiving journey feels long, lonely, or thankless?

When You've Done it unto the Least of These

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