



Compassion: Conveying a Caring Countenance

Maria Currey

You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. – 2 Corinthians 3:2-6

An empty car seat and two broken hearts, my son and daughter-in-law were suddenly plummeted from new parenthood to a ten-hour drive home with empty hands and hearts. Called a disrupted adoption, their hearts were grievously shocked, and our family was numbly disrupted alongside. When I shared the raw news with a church family member, her eyes became pools of emotion, spilling tears of compassionate love and disbelief, showing Christ's care in ribbons of grief trailing down her cheeks. Her wordless wonder of compassion spilled volumes of care as she embraced my shoulders and spoke the Spirit's love.

Have you considered today how your smile, your tears, your compassion and countenance impacts others—all because the Holy Spirit is inscribed from within your soul to be seen and read by others in whatever you're doing at this very moment?

Jesus, through His life-giving blood, and by His salvation grace, gave us His love, written on the very tablets of our hearts. To be read and seen in our everyday heart beats, in the ways we walk, talk, sing, cry, work in a cubicle, meet with strangers, play tennis, eat, sleep, interact with family, rehearse music, encounter hard people, enjoy the easiest friends, navigate unspeakable circumstances, and delight in what makes our Father smile—in everything swirling in all directions around those life scenarios! His Word walked, lived, and love—reflecting in and through us for His kingdom grace and honor to be seen, known, and experienced.

Let's Chat!

- In what tangibly meaningful way(s) have you experienced the tablet of God's Word written and spoken from another believer's heart?
- How are you a letter of recommendation for Christ to your family, friends, co-workers and strangers?
- Conversely, identify any ways or situations in which you might be a letter of rejection in reflecting Christ's love—conveying rash, insensitive, and misspoken messages. What do you need to confess and how will you seek God for a renewed countenance of care?

Take-away Truth

Your caring heart is Christ's living and breathing love letter written to convey His life-giving heartbeat.

Find more conversation starters: <https://women.pcacdm.org/made-for-more>

