

July 13, 2025
Sermon Notes: Core 3.0

1. Introduction

- Welcome and context of the summer season
- Tab's core values shape its unique church culture
- Introduction of the core value: We Notice the Unnoticeable

2. Defining the Core Value

- God opens our eyes to brokenness and injustice
- As salt and light, we step in where others step out
- We honor God's imprint on every human being

3. Biblical Foundation for Compassion

- Jesus embodies truth and mercy (John 14:6, Matthew 5:7)
- The Holy Spirit gives us new eyes and hearts
- The Gospel changes how we see and treat others

4. The Connection Between Loving God and Loving People

- 1 John 4:20–21: Love for God is expressed through love for others
- Faith is not works-based, but genuine faith shows up in love
- We recognize God's image even in the "least of these"

5. Key Scripture: Matthew 25:40

- "Whatever you did for one of the least of these...you did for Me"
- Set within the context of the Final Judgment

6. Context of Matthew 24–25

- Disciples ask about the end times (Matthew 24:3)
- Jesus emphasizes living ready lives over knowing exact timing
- Encouragement to live ethically in light of the coming judgment

7. Jesus' Return and Final Judgment

- Jesus will return as King and Judge (Matthew 25:31–33)
- All humanity will be gathered and separated like sheep and goats
- Eternal destiny is the ultimate outcome

8. The Verdict: Evidence of Mercy

- The righteous are surprised; their mercy was natural, not strategic
- Their compassionate acts were ultimately toward Jesus (Matt 25:40)
- True faith overflows into love, not checklist-based charity

9. A Warning About Omission

- The goats are judged for what they failed to do
- They didn't notice or act on needs (sins of omission)
- They claimed Jesus as Lord but ignored Him in practice

10. Faith That Acts

- Jesus is not teaching works-based salvation
- Salvation is by grace, but genuine faith produces action
- Mercy is evidence of a heart transformed by the Gospel

11. Special Emphasis on Persecuted Believers

- "Brothers and sisters" in v.40 likely refers to fellow believers
- Many early Christians (and modern ones) suffer for their faith
- We're called to notice, support, and stand with them

12. Final Thoughts

- Jesus modeled compassion toward the marginalized
- The call is to extend God's mercy with intentionality
- Our eternal hope drives us to live with truth and mercy

13. Core Value Reaffirmed

- We notice the unnoticeable
- We step in where others step out
- We bring Christ's transforming love to the broken and unseen

14. Closing Prayer