



THRIVE LUNCH

Lunch 5: Compassion & Calling

Thrive Notes



Spring 2024 Registration Opens Monday 11/6!

Review your Program Map

Academic Advising:

2nd & 3rd Semester Advising- See Roman and/or Lance

Declared- See your Program Director

Register early!!

NEXT WEEK!!!

Dr. Worthington

1) What is your role here at Criswell College and how long have you served here?

2) What is one of the earliest positive, happy moments you can remember?

3) What are one or two of the earliest scarring memories you can remember?



Compassion & Calling

A couple definitions:

Compassion- a suffering with another; painful sympathy; a sensation of sorrow excited by the distress or misfortunes of another; the mixed, compounded passion of love and sorrow which attends to the pain or regret of the other

Calling- 1) vocation; profession; trade; occupation or employment (1 Cor. 7:20); 2) Divine summons, vocation or invitation (2 Pet 1)

Luke 4- Yeshua's reading of Isaiah 61

After His temptations, Luke records Yeshua using Isaiah 61 to reveal that He was the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecy to deliver YHWH's mercy (faithful lovingkindness) to the poor, brokenhearted, captives, and those who are bound and who mourn.

And consider the people's initial response as recorded in vs.22,

And all were speaking well of Him, and wondering at the gracious words which were falling from His lips; and they were saying, "Is this not Joseph's son?"

Yeshua's highlighting the widow and the alien in Luke 4

Then take note of who Yeshua points out who received YHWH's faithful lovingkindness through the prophets: a widow in a foreign land and an enemy military leader.

And what was the people's response in verses 28-29 to this revelation?

And all the people in the synagogue were filled with rage as they heard these things; 29and they got up and drove Him out of the city, and led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city had been built, in order to throw Him down the cliff.

Three Compassion Pericopes in Luke

Luke 7:

11 Soon afterwards He went to a city called Nain; and His disciples were going along with Him, accompanied by a large crowd. 12 Now as He approached the gate of the city, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a **widow**; and a sizable crowd from the city was with her. 13 When the Lord saw her, He felt **compassion for her**, and said to her, “Do not weep.” 14 And He came up and touched the coffin; and the bearers came to a halt. And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise!” 15 The dead man sat up and began to speak. And Jesus gave him back to his mother.

Three Compassion Pericopes in Luke

Luke 10:

29 But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

30 Jesus replied and said, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and [n]beat him, and went away leaving him half dead. 31 And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. 32 Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a **Samaritan**, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt **compassion**, 34 and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35 On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.’ 36 Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers’ hands?” 37 And he said, “The one who showed mercy toward him.” Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do the same.”

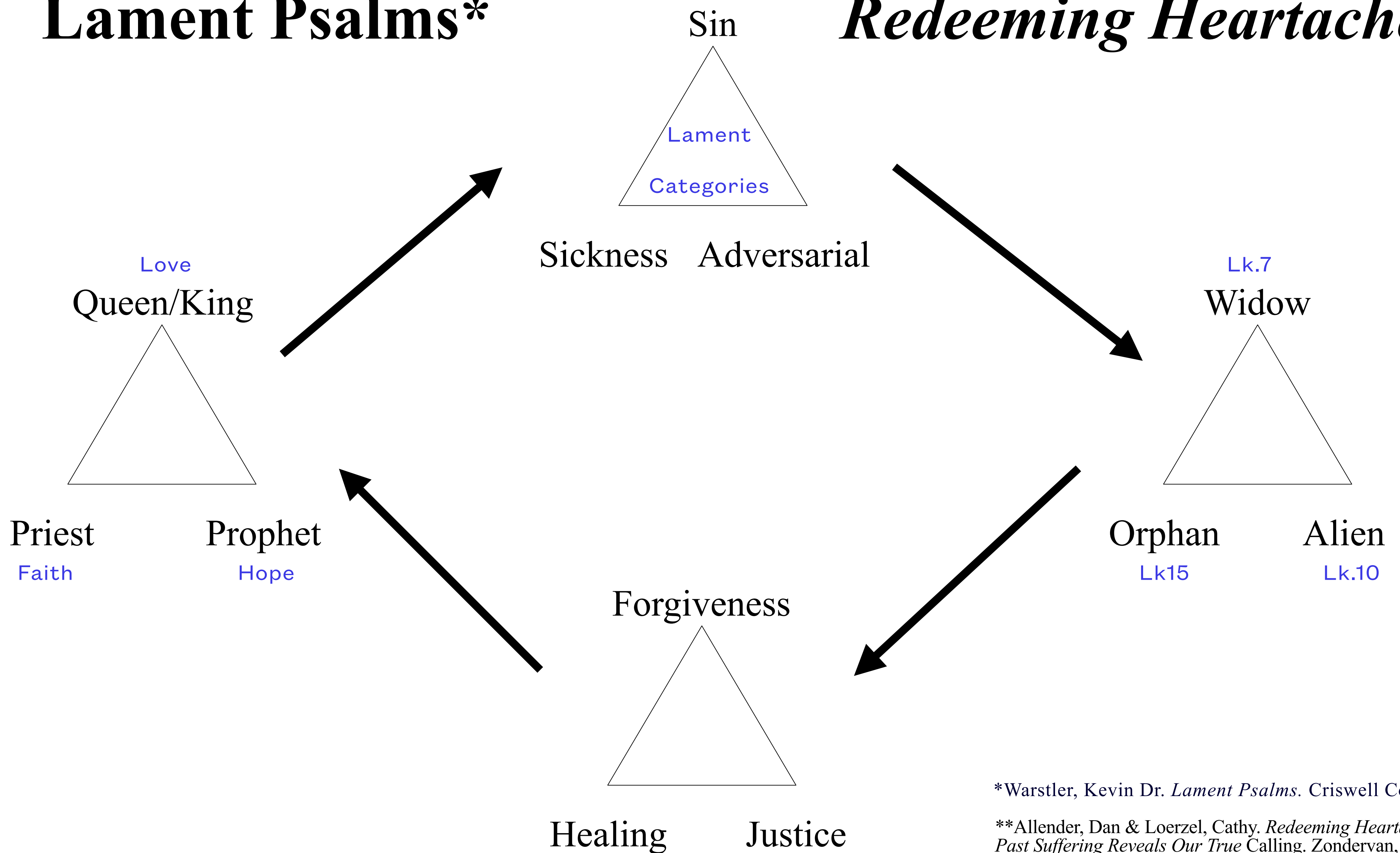
Three Compassion Pericopes in Luke

Luke 15:

11 And He said, “A man had two sons. 12 The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the estate that falls to me.’ So he divided his wealth between them. 13 And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country, and there he squandered his estate with loose living. 14 Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to be impoverished. 15 So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16 And he would have gladly filled his stomach with the pods that the swine were eating, and no one was giving anything to him. 17 But when he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger! 18 I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; 19 **I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men.”**” 20 So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt **compassion** for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. 21 And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ 22 But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet; 23 and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; 24 for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.’ And they began to celebrate.

Lament Psalms*

*Redeeming Heartache***



*Warstler, Kevin Dr. *Lament Psalms*. Criswell College, 2023.

**Allender, Dan & Loerzel, Cathy. *Redeeming Heartache: How Past Suffering Reveals Our True Calling*. Zondervan, 2021.

“God uses our strengths to draw us to our calling and then uses our weaknesses to reveal our need for redemption.”*

- Orphan’s betrayal & abandonment → crucifixion → attunement → priestly care → **faith**
- Stranger’s powerlessness → resurrection → containment → prophetic invitation → **hope**
- Widow’s shame → ascension → repair of rupture → kingly/queenly service → **love**

“Our calling is to come to know who we are and what we bring to the world that reveals how the Kingdom of God works.”*

Compassion & Calling

A couple more definitions:

Attunement- (in Psychological terms) the capacity to see, feel, and connect with what another is communicating, both verbally and nonverbally (it is about bearing witness to the crimes that have been committed against another and the marring of that person's glory that has resulted)

Containment- (In Psychological terms) the capacity to hold, on behalf of another person, all that s/he may feel or experience without rejecting her/him (it is a stance of welcome to the one who feels hurt and undeserving)

Calling

As “little Christs” and new creations IN Christ, we have been called to manifest Christ’s roles as Priest, Prophet and King (/Queen) with compassion so others may be brought into right relationship with YHWH.

How has YHWH ministered to you? Healed you—
Built your *faith*? Adopted you— Given you *hope*?
Forgiven you— *Loved* you?

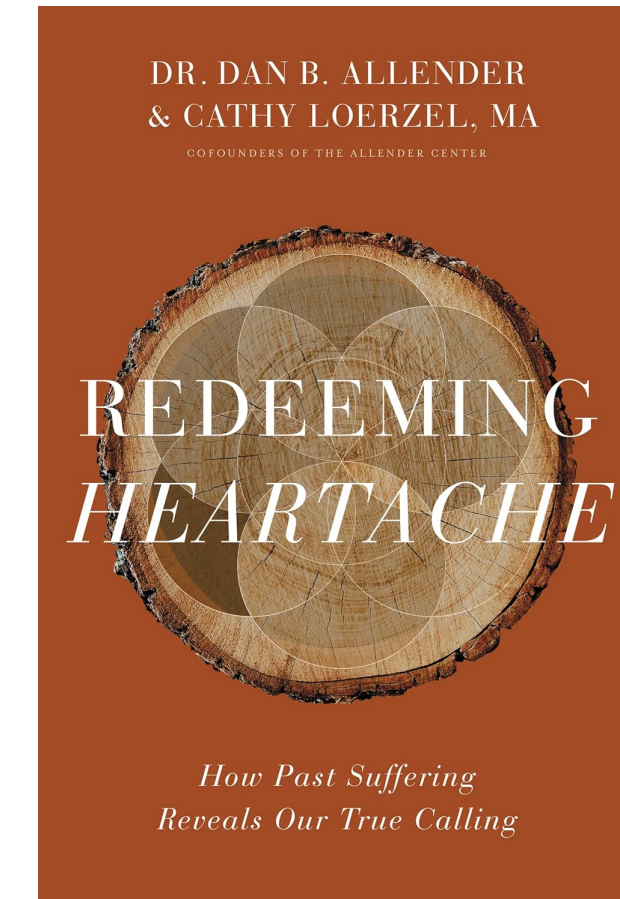
Go and do likewise!

Q & A

Resources

Books & Articles

- Allender, Dan & Loerzel, Cathy. *Redeeming Heartache: How Past Suffering Reveals Our True Calling*. Zondervan, 2021.
- Worthington, Bobby. “The Identity of the Poor in Luke 4:18, Jesus’ Mission, and the Mission of the Church,” *Criswell Theological Review*. N.S. Vol. 19, No.2, Spring 2022.



Podcasts (related to “mercy”)

- Ep. 37 “Parts per Million”
 - Ep. 71 “Here’s My Chance”
 - Eps. 75-77 “Sorry Not Sorry” Parts 1-3
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Hope you join us at our next lunch NEXT week on Thursday, 9th of November at 11:00a.m. as we speak about *Education's Role in the Path to Ministry* with Drs. Moore, Sanders, & Spring.

Criswell Thrive Lunches Podcast

