LIKE SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD

Matthew 9:36

1. Review the context: What had the Pharisees said about Jesus, and why? (9:34) How is Jesus’ ministry described? (9:35) What would he soon tell his disciples? (9:37–38)
2. Read verse 36. What does the word “compassion” mean? When Jesus had compassion for people, what did he do? (14:14; 15:32; 20:34) How did his compassion reflect God himself? (Ex34:6; Ps103:13–14; 145:9; Mic5:4)

1. Note when the phrase “like sheep without a shepherd” is first used in the Bible (Nu27:15–17). Why did Moses see his people like that? Review how God once rebuked Israel’s leaders (Eze34:1–6). What should we learn from this? In contrast, what is God’s hope? (Jer3:15)
2. Read verse 36 again. How does this verse illustrate Jesus’ deeper understanding of people? How does it illustrate his true shepherd’s heart? (Jn10:12–13) How does drawing close to Jesus change the way we see people? (Ro14:10; 2Co5:16a)
3. In what ways are college students “like sheep without a shepherd”? Why is how we see them the starting point of ministry to them? How can we see them like Jesus does?