

Adult Bible Studies

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Modeling God's Love Matthew 25:31-46

At 18, Seth Miller aged out of the foster care system and soon found himself homeless, living in a car. His only wish was for a family. After he was profiled in a news story in Dallas, he was reunited with his biological sister and her adoptive family, who soon "invited him to join them." He took the family's name to match his new life and is now Logan Hunt. When Logan was 19, he, his new family, and his friends gathered in a courtroom. His father said to the judge, "From the first time I saw the interview, I knew he was a part of our family. We're just doing this to make it legal. Please, he's ours." Logan now has all he wanted, a family.¹

The student book author writes, "The arena of faith is daily life. . . . The primary place we live our faith is in the sheepfold of our daily lives. . . . Compassion belongs . . . in our ordinary and everyday encounters."² When loving and serving our neighbor comes from a place of faith, the service becomes a way of life. We almost become unconscious of loving and serving others because that love is simply who we are and what we do as followers of Jesus Christ. Loving and serving others becomes an everyday piece of our lives.

Logan Hunt just needed to belong somewhere and to someone. His sister and her parents knew his place was with them. Adopting a 19-year-old was simple, ordinary, but necessary for this family. Compassion in the Hunt family is an everyday encounter. Imagine how many of the needs of this broken and hurting world could be erased if all followers of Jesus Christ loved and served neighbors as part of their daily lives, almost without thinking about it. May we all make loving and serving others simply part of our daily encounters.

1. What are the differences between a weekly or a monthly faith and a faith lived out daily?
2. Where does your compassion come from? What needs do you feel personally called to meet?
3. How do you love and serve your neighbor on a daily basis?

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¹From "Homeless Teen Finds Sister but That's not the Best Part," *USA Today News*, usatoday.com/videos/news/nation-now/2014/11/06/18605537/.

²From *Adult Bible Studies*, Winter 2018-2019, by Stan Purdum (Cokesbury, 2018); page 37.

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