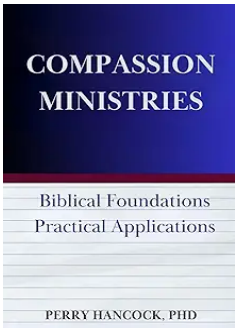
COMPASSION MINISTRIES

Biblical Foundations, Practical Applications

Perry Hancock, PhD



FOUNDATIONAL COMPANION TO THE COMPASSION MINISTRY RESOURCE SYSTEM

Compassion Ministries: Biblical Foundations, Practical Applications provides the biblical and theological foundation for Christians who desire to serve people in need with wisdom, purpose, and faithfulness. Written for pastors, ministry leaders, church members, volunteers, and others engaged in compassionate service, the book examines why compassion ministry is not simply a church program or community outreach strategy, but an expression of the biblical mission of God's people.

Dr. Perry Hancock connects Scripture with the practical realities of ministry, helping readers understand the biblical principles that should shape the way Christians respond to poverty, hardship, crisis, vulnerability, and human need. Rather than separating theology from ministry practice, the book demonstrates how biblical truth should influence the attitudes, priorities, relationships, and decisions of those who serve.

At the heart of the book is the conviction that compassion ministry must begin with a clear understanding of God's character and His concern for people. Effective ministry involves more than providing goods or services. It requires seeing individuals as people created in the image of God, treating them with dignity and respect, and responding in ways that reflect both the grace and truth of Christ.

The book also considers the practical implications of biblical compassion. Scripture provides principles for generosity, stewardship, justice, mercy, responsibility, relationships, service, and transformation. These principles offer an essential framework for churches and organizations seeking to develop ministries that are compassionate without becoming careless, helpful without creating unhealthy dependence, and organized without losing their spiritual purpose.

How it should be used with the Compassion Ministry Resource System: This book serves as a foundational companion to the three-volume system rather than as one of its numbered volumes. It is especially useful before beginning the system or alongside Volume 1 because it establishes the biblical *why* behind compassion ministry before leaders move into understanding the people they serve, developing ministry structures, and applying practical tools.

The resources then build in a natural progression: **Volume 1, *Compassion Ministry: Serving People with Wisdom, Dignity, and Hope***, develops the heart and practical principles of serving people well. **Volume 2, *Compassion Ministry: From Vision to Launch***, provides step-by-step guidance for developing and sustaining a ministry. **Volume 3, *Companion Resource Library***, supplies ready-to-use forms, assessments, worksheets, checklists, and templates for everyday ministry practice.

Together, this biblical foundation and the three-volume Compassion Ministry Resource System connect Scripture, compassionate understanding, ministry development, and practical tools into one coordinated approach to serving people in the name of Christ.