

## Artist:

TAIT  
TAITBAND.COM

## Album Title &amp; Record Company:

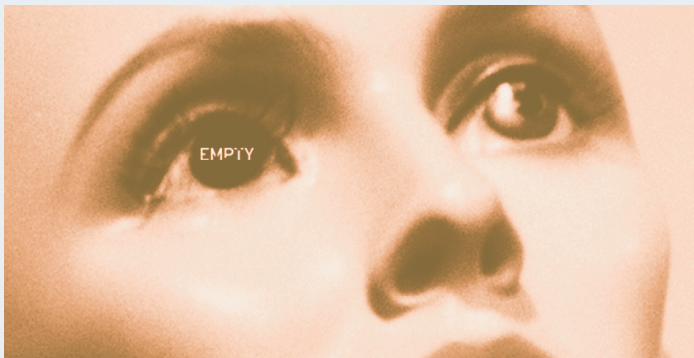
EMPTY  
FOREFRONT RECORDS

## Video Title:

ALTARS

## Study by:

DAVE WEISS  
NEW CREATION FELLOWSHIP  
READING, PENNSYLVANIA  
ANGELPRTY1@AOL.COM



## Theme

Compassion

## Objective

By the end of the session your group will be challenged to reach out with compassion to make a difference.

## Warm Up

Get a stack of recent newspapers and have your group go through them to find headlines and pictures of things that our society is struggling against. Get several large pieces of posterboard joined together. Have the group create a collage out of what they have found. At the bottom of the poster, write the words of Cain, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Post it in your youth room as a reminder that there are problems out there and that we as the body of Christ are called to make a difference and be our brother's keeper.

## Transition

Gather the students and have them list and discuss some of the headlines they found. Write them on a flip chart or whiteboard. Ask the question, "What can we, as Christians, do?" After a few minutes of discussion ask, "Are we our brother's keeper? Is it our responsibility to look out for our neighbor?"

## Video

Say, "The video by **Tait** is called 'Altars.' As you watch, pick out the images that stand out." They will probably notice the altar images and the fact that they disappear and kids pop up where they were. They may also notice that at one point the band disappears and is replaced by an altar in the street. Ask them what they think this means.

After the video, then say something like: "In places where tragedies occur, often times the loved ones of the victims will erect temporary memorials right there on the site — right there in the street. The memorials are a testimony to the unpredictability of life, to people who were cut down in their prime." Ask, "Why do you think people set up these 'Altars in the Streets?' Do you think the people that set up these altars showed this much love to the people while they were alive? Why does it seem to take a tragedy to get people to act?"

"In the video these street altars seem to disappear and living people seem to emerge from them. This could represent the fact that tragedies and tragic circumstances are preventable. A little earlier we looked at problems that people face and what we can do about them. Now let's look at what the Bible has to say."

## Bible Lesson

Have your students look up the following verses about why they should care for others.

**John 13:34, 35** — As Jesus loves us, we should love others, this is how people will know that we belong to Him.

**1 John 3:17** — If I can meet my brother's need and I don't, the love of God is not in me.

**James 4:17** — If I know the right thing to do and I don't do it, it is a sin.

**James 2:26** — My faith is dead if I don't follow it with action.

**Matthew 7:12** — I should help because one day I might need help.

**Matthew 10:8** — I should serve freely and give freely because Jesus gave Himself freely for me.

**2 Corinthians 9:6-8** — I should give cheerfully

**Luke 12:48** — Because I have been given much, I am expected to give much

Part 2: Study on **Romans 12:9-21**. Have your students list the action points to this scripture. Then have the students identify which action points apply to the problems we face as a society.

## Wrap Up

Give each student a wallet size "Go M.A.D." (Make a Difference) card. Ask them to think of one way they can make a difference tomorrow or in the coming week and have them write it on the back of the card. Then pray over them and commission them to go into the world and make a difference for Jesus. Tell them that you will be checking up on each one at the following meeting, or better yet set up Go M.A.D. teams of two or three to share their goal and keep each other accountable. Also this is a great time to start a service project as a group. Please go beyond fundraising and donations, and do something that makes your kids get physically involved in someone's life.

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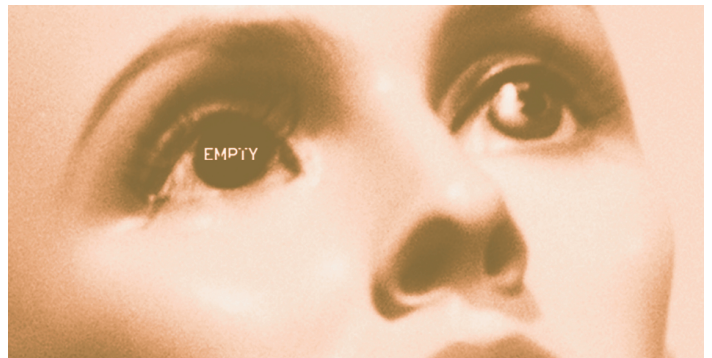
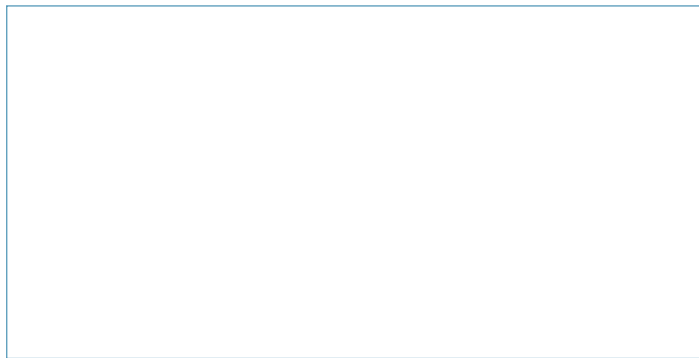
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Theme:

COMPASSION



## A World Of problems...

What are some of the problems in the headlines today?

*If God is "Grace" Then "Bless the Child"  
/ Who's left alone tonight / Set him free,  
free to fly...  
Why Should I care?*

## Look It Up

Read the following verses to find out what the Bible teaches about having compassion for people who are facing problems:

**John 13: 34,35**

**1 John 3:17**

**James 4:17**

**James 2: 26**

**Matthew 7:12**

**Matthew 10:8**

**2 Corinthians 9:6-8**

**Luke 12:48**

## Application

Read **Romans 12:9-21**  
Write out any action steps that are given in the space below.

*Can you feel the silent cries of a soul  
in need, underneath the city lights their  
altars in the streets...  
What can we do about these problems?*

In the coming week what can you do to make a difference?