

Compassion is caring enough to do something about someone else's needs.

DAY 1

Read Matthew 5:16

When you go camping, what's one important thing on your to-do list? You start a fire! You need a fire to keep warm, cook hotdogs, and roast marshmallows. But a fire also gives you a light source in the middle of a dark forest or campground.

Compassion is like that. It's caring enough to do something about someone else's needs. Every time you see a need and do something to help, you shine a light in the darkness. Every time you show compassion, you point others to a loving and compassionate God.

Compassion Challenge

Write today's verse on a card and place it on your fridge or kitchen counter. Each time you see someone show compassion in your family this week, flip the lights on and off. Then name the act of compassion you witnessed and read the verse on the card aloud.

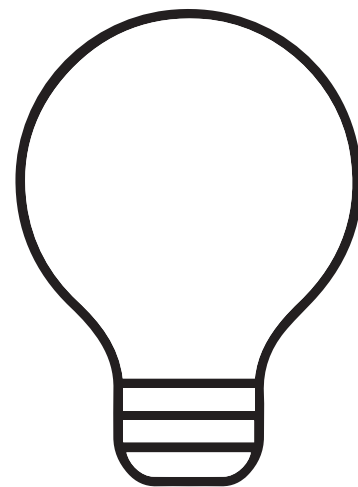
DAY 2

Read Ephesians 5:8

Has the power ever gone out at your house during a storm? When that happened, did your family sit around in the dark, waiting for the lights to come back on? You probably went on a search for all the flashlights and candles you could find!

When you choose to put your faith and trust in Jesus, to follow Him always, it's like moving from darkness to light! And now that you have that light, as a follower of Jesus, you should SHARE that light with others! You can shine God's light.

How do you shine a light? By treating others the way you want to be treated! In the light bulb, write some specific ways you can shine your light this week and show compassion.





DAY 3

Read 1 Peter 3:8

Do you have a night light or lamp in your room? It might not seem like it could make much of a difference, but even a small light can make a dark room seem way less scary!

When you see a need and do something to help, you shine God’s light to everyone around you. Small acts of love and kindness can make a big difference, especially to the person you choose to help.

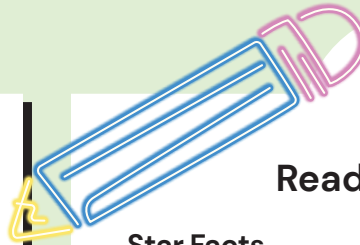
Word Search

Find the following words from today’s verse. Then circle the word you want to focus on this week as you choose compassion.

Agree Kind Love

Understand Tender Humble

T	A	C	K	S	T	L	M	N	P	O
E	E	X	I	A	R	V	R	S	T	E
N	L	N	N	G	Q	O	V	E	R	T
D	B	A	D	R	K	L	O	V	E	E
U	M	B	L	E	I	E	L	M	S	N
R	U	N	D	E	R	S	T	A	N	D
K	H	W	X	B	D	F	O	D	F	E



DAY 4

Read Daniel 12:3

Star Facts

- ➔ Every day, approximately 275 million stars are formed in the universe.
- ➔ All stars are made of the same basic ingredients: hydrogen and helium.
- ➔ The word “planet” comes from a Greek word meaning “wandering star.”

God is the maker of all things, including light. When we choose to put our faith in Jesus, we become bearers of His light to the world around us. So how do you shine a light? By loving God and loving others. Daniel reminds us that when we shine like stars, we lead others to do what is right too.

Do you know the song, “This Little Light of Mine?” Grab a flashlight, turn off the lights, and sing that song as your prayer today. Remember to let your little light shine as you show compassion this week.



You can shine God’s light.



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DAY 1

Read Matthew 14:19-20

What do you usually find in your lunch box? Draw a picture of your typical lunch in the space below.

Fun fact: the kid who gave up his meal to the disciples probably didn't give up lunch. Most likely, it was supposed to be his dinner. When he left home that day, he had NO idea how far that one small meal would go. But because he was willing to use what he had to help, Jesus multiplied it to feed thousands of people.

There are BIG needs all around us. And sometimes, it might feel like your value-sized meal's worth of help won't make enough of a difference. Don't let that stop you from helping! You might not be able to help everyone, but you can help someone.

Packed with Compassion

Write "Use what you have to help others" on a piece of masking tape and stick it to the bottom of your lunch bag as a reminder to show compassion this week.

DAY 2

Read Ephesians 4:32

What matters to you? Set a timer for 30 seconds and write down the things you value most in the box.

What's Important to Me

When it comes to compassion, we can show others that they matter. Today's verse gives us a few clues.

1. Choose kindness: What does kindness mean to you?
 - Kindness is showing concern for others, putting others first, and helping even if it costs you something.
2. Be tenderhearted: What does it mean to be tender towards someone else?
 - Being tenderhearted means showing concern for others, listening and caring.
3. Forgive: Why is forgiveness important?
 - Forgiveness is being willing to overlook a wrong—to let it go.


Did you name anyone in your list above? How could you show compassion to that person this week? Ask God to help you choose kindness, be tenderhearted, and forgive.



DAY 3

Read Hebrews 13:16

What was the last thing you forgot? Maybe you forgot to...

- Finish your homework
 - Plug in your iPad or computer for school
 - Take out the trash
 - Close the fridge all the way
 - Say “thank you” when someone helped you
- 

We all forget things sometimes. That’s why the writer of Hebrews is reminding us to show compassion by doing good and by choosing to share. One trick to help you remember is when you see a need, repeat these two key questions below to yourself. Once you have an answer, get busy using what you have to help others. Know that when you do, God is so pleased.

Two Key Compassion Questions

- How can I “do good”?
- What can I share?



DAY 4

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Do you like to build things? Maybe you’re a Lego or K-Nex kid. Maybe you love to stack things to build the tallest tower. Today’s verse is talking about a different kind of “building.” To build others up means to encourage, to literally give courage where it is needed.

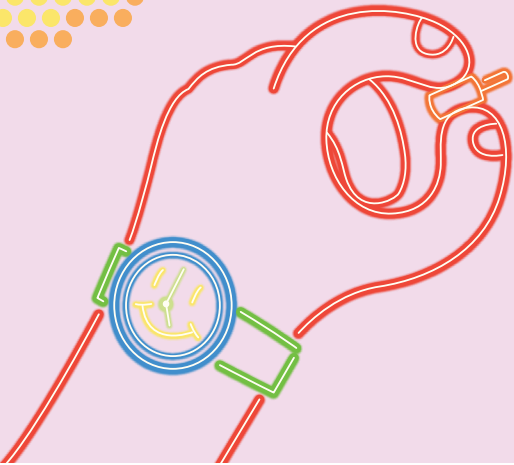

You can encourage by:

- Praying for others
- Speaking words that are true and helpful
- Offering to help


There are lots of ways you can encourage others that don’t cost anything. You can use what you have (your prayers, your words, and your good deeds) to show compassion!

Build the Verse

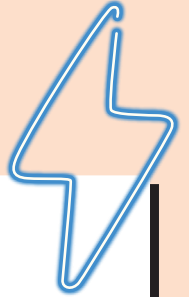
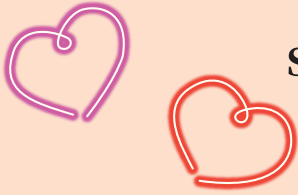
Grab a set of Jenga blocks or Lego bricks and masking tape. Write out the words of today’s verse on small pieces of tape to attach to the front of each block or brick, then build the verse by stacking up the words in verse order. Don’t forget to include the reference (1 Thessalonians 5:11) at the end.



Use what you have
to help others.



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DAY 1

Read Proverbs 3:27

Have you ever missed out on something? Maybe you lost your spot in line or didn't hear your name when it was called. Maybe you missed your turn in a game and someone else took your spot. It doesn't feel good to be left out.

When it comes to showing compassion, we shouldn't leave anyone out! If you have a chance to do good to others, don't hold back. When you see a need that you can do something about, the best thing to do is to get busy helping and show compassion.

Crack the Code

Fill in the letters by following the grid below. The first number corresponds to the number across the top. The second number corresponds to the numbers along the side. So, 28 would be "P".

	1	2	3	4
5	B	C	E	L
6	A	M	J	I
7	H	T	K	S
8	D	P	R	O

.....
26 16 37 35 27 46 26 35 27 48

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17 35 45 28 48 27 17 35 38 47

Answer: Make time to help others

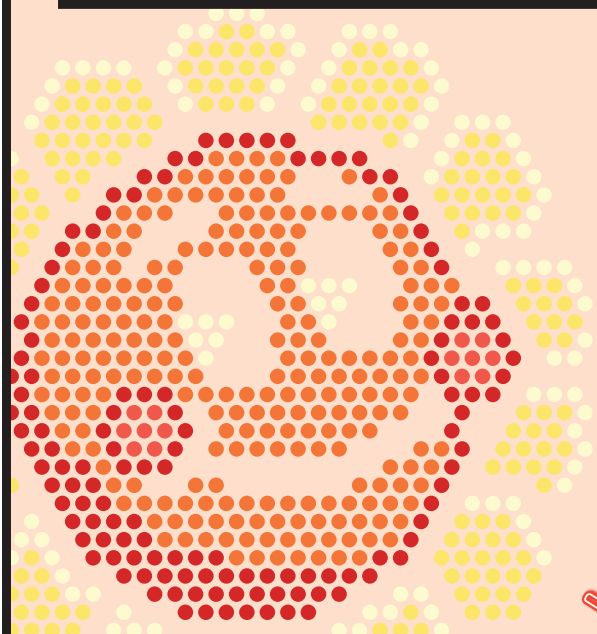
DAY 2

Read Mark 10:51-52

When Jesus heard Bartimaeus call out, what did he do? Why do you think Jesus stopped to help this man who was blind? Do you think Jesus had other things to do? Maybe. But still, Jesus chose to stop and help Bartimaeus.

Do you ever feel that way when you see a need? Maybe you were about to do something else and that something else seemed really important. The truth is, if we wait for the "perfect" time to show compassion, we might not ever stop to help.

This week, when you see a need that you can do something about, put whatever plans you have aside and make time to help.





DAY 3

Read Proverbs 17:17

According to Proverbs 17:17, when should you love others and show compassion? At ALL times. When you feel like it and when you don't. When you think others will notice and when no one else is around to see what you've done. When it's your last fifty cents and when you have a wallet full of allowance money. When it's convenient and when it's the last thing you have time for. A friend loves and shows compassion at ALL times. No excuses.



All the Time

On the blank lines below, write down one person that you typically see during that time. For instance, the 7 am slot would probably be someone in your family.

Next to each person's name, think of one way you can love that person during that time. Challenge yourself to follow through tomorrow.

- 7 am
- 9 am
- noon
- 3 pm
- 6 pm

DAY 4

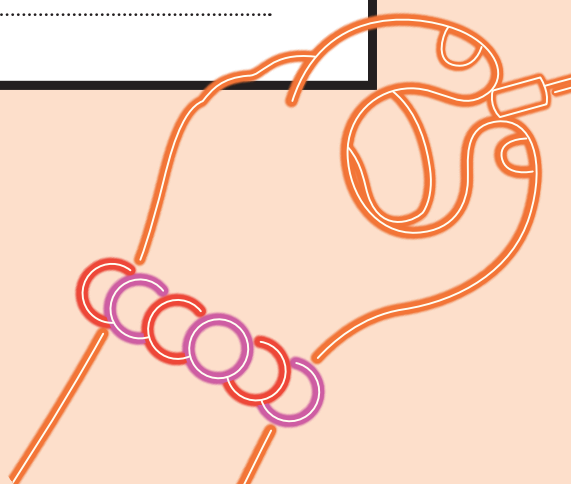
Read 2 Thessalonians 3:13

Have you ever been to a graduation ceremony? When a graduate walks across the stage to receive their diploma, the crowd celebrates all those years of dedication and hard work!

When it comes to following God, you probably won't cross a finish line or receive a diploma because being a disciple is a lifelong journey. But Jesus' power working in you can help you to keep going. You can keep showing compassion, and keep doing the right thing when you remember that you don't have to do it alone!

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that butterflies need warmth for their muscles and wings to work properly? Butterflies soak up the sunshine to get the energy they need so they can fly again! One BIG way we can soak up God's light is by spending time reading and learning from God's Word. Every time you complete a devotional like this one, you're soaking up a little more of God's goodness and light!



Make time to help others.



Compassion is caring enough to do something about someone else's needs.

DAY 1

Read John 8:12

Have you ever had a goldfish? Ever wonder what makes that goldfish seem to glow? Light! If you were to place your goldfish bowl in a dimly lit room, your once "golden" goldfish would become dull and drab!

Jesus is the light of the world! When we follow Jesus and live as He's called us to live, we'll shine His light to others. That means we need to stay close to Him by reading His word, talking to Him in prayer, and spending time learning about God with our small group. If we want to shine, we need to stick close to Jesus, the light of the world!

Schedule Change

Think of two changes you can make to your daily routine that will help you draw closer to God. Maybe you could get up a few minutes early and complete this devo before school. Or maybe you could start praying or listening to worship music on the way home from school.

DAY 2

Read Revelation 21:23

Can you imagine a world with no sun or moon in the sky? Just think about how your mood changes when you face one cloudy, dreary day after another. Today's verse tells us about a city that won't need the sun OR the moon!

The book of Revelation was written by John, one of Jesus' disciples. God gave John a vision or picture of heaven. One day, when we live with God forever, we won't need the sun because the glory and wonder of God will be all the light we need! And we won't need the moon either because there will be no night. God will shine so bright, and Jesus will be the lamp.

This week, each time you feel the sun on your face or gaze at the moon in the night sky, thank God for showing compassion toward you and ask for help to show compassion to others.




DAY 3



Read I John 4:10

God loved us enough to send Jesus to rescue us. Did you know you needed to be rescued? It's true. Sin, the wrong things we all do, gets in the way of our relationship with God. But because God LOVED us, Jesus came to be our Savior. Jesus took the punishment for our sins to rescue us and shine His light so that we can have a relationship with God forever.

Choosing to put your trust in Jesus is a really important decision. If you've already chosen to trust and follow Jesus, awesome. If you have questions, you can always talk to an adult you trust that follows God. Jesus is the light of the world, and He wants to be YOUR light, too.



DAY 4



Read Psalm 96:3




Globe Trotting

Grab a globe or map. Spin it around or trace your finger over the page with your eyes closed and then stop. Open your eyes and read the name of the country you've landed on.

Jesus is the light who came to offer salvation to everyone. Jesus came for the people in the country you found on the globe. But He also came to shine His light and offer salvation to the people that you see each day.

Jesus loves. . .
the kid you sit next to on the bus.
the buddy you play with every day after school.
the people in your own family.

One BIG way you can show compassion to others is to show them Jesus. You do this by being a good friend, by treating them the way you want to be treated, by inviting them to church, and when you have an opportunity, by telling them that Jesus is the light of the world.



Jesus is the light of the world.