



COMPASSION | WEEK 3 | SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

Elementary Lesson

Take Time

Monthly Virtue: Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else’s needs

Bible Story: Take Time (Jesus Heals Bartimaeus) • *Mark 10:46-52*

Key Question: When has someone made time for you?

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

Memory Verse: Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven.” *Matthew 5:16 (NIRV)*

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Think back to a time when someone made time for you. Maybe that looked like caring for you when you were sick, or teaching you how to tie your shoe, making food for you, or teaching you how to read or learn a new skill. No matter what it is, when people make time for us, it can bring us joy. It's like a light shining on a dark day. Caring for one another isn't always the easy thing to do, but it certainly is what Jesus asks of us. When Jesus gave the command in Matthew 5 to let our light shine, it wasn't just to bring joy into each other's lives, but also to bring glory to God. We are reflections of Who God is, and as we "Live Bright" this month, we'll discover exactly how we can shine God's light.

Key Question: When has someone made time for you?

Whether you're seven or 77, it feels good when people make an effort to spend time with you. It especially means a lot when someone is busy and they go out of their way to make you feel seen or welcomed. The same is true when we take the time to see others. This question allows preteens to think about other people in a different context, and invites them to explore the bigger world around them and how they can make a difference.

In week 3, we head to *Mark 10:46-52*. Jesus was headed out of the city with His disciples and a crowd in tow. Even though there were several people surrounding Jesus, one voice stood out above the others. A man named Bartimaeus, who was blind, sat on the side of the road begging for help. When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was passing by, he shouted to ask Jesus for mercy. The crowd tried to shush Bartimaeus, but Jesus brought him forward and made time for him, changing his life forever.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow

- Doors Open 9:15/11:00
- Large Group Starts 9:35/11:20
- Small Group Starts 10:05/11:50

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

LGL: “Welcome everyone! I’m so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today, but before we do let’s go over these announcements/KidCity Expectations.

(SLIDE: 5th GRADE TWISTED) “This is specifically for our 5th graders: We have a special event that’s just for YOU and YOUR PARENTS/GUARDIANS! Today, from 2-3:30 PM, we are having a game of kickball. But not just regular kickball – TWISTED KICKBALL! We will be celebrating your whole 5th grade year by having extra fun that’s just for you guys. We are *kicking* off the year with kickball. We’ve got some fun surprises for you, so you don’t want to miss it! You can still come even if you didn’t register.

(SLIDE: 5th SUNDAY FUNDAY) “It’s coming up on one of my FAVORITE KidCity holidays at the end of this month...5th SUNDAY FUNDAY! That’s right, I totally count it as a holiday, because it only comes like 3 or 4 times a year. This month, we are celebrating by having a GLOW party. It’s going to be totally awesome and you’re going to want to bring your friends with you.

(SLIDE: BAPTISM) *(Said on the fourth weekend of the month only)* “Today are baptisms at Hope. Baptism is a way of telling the world that you love God and have made the decision to follow Him with your life. It’s a big deal! Is there anyone here who is getting baptized today? *(Pause and if someone is, go ahead and give them a high five and get the kids to clap).* Awesome!”

(SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS) “Now, let’s quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: *(Don’t dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)*

1. Be Kind
2. Be Safe
3. Have Fun

LARGE GROUP GAME (4 Min)

HOW MANY SQUISHMELLOWS TALL?

(Whiteboards or blank pieces of paper, markers)

“Today, we are continuing our conversation about COMPASSION. That’s a big word, so let’s define it...

(SLIDE: VIRTUE) Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else’s needs

“The greatest example of compassion we have is God caring for us enough to send us a rescuer from the consequences of our sin. God gave us His son, Jesus, to die on the cross in our place and then raised Him back to life so we can have a right relationship with Him. Now, we can’t do the

same thing, only Jesus could make a way for us to have a right relationship with God again, BUT we can still have compassion for other people and treat others the way we want to be treated. Check out our monthly verse...

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE) “Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven.” *Matthew 5:16* (NirV)

“More on that later, but for now, let’s play a silly game!”

(SLIDE: HOW MANY SQUISHMALLOWS TALL?)
(SLIDES: SQUISHMALLOWS #1-14)

HOW TO PLAY:

- **SPLIT INTO SMALLER GROUPS:** Groups don’t have to be even. Give each group something to write on and with.
- **EXPLAIN:** Show first slide. Kids will guess how many squishmallows stacked on top of each other to be the same height as what is in the picture. Take a couple of guesses before revealing the answer on the second slide. This game is for fun, but if you want to give points to whoever is the closest – go ahead!

“That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let’s worship God!”

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

(VIDEO: RIVER, PRAISE)

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(No Supplies)

“Have you ever thought about where your time goes throughout the day? Like, you go to school, come home, and then all of the sudden you are getting ready for bed...where did the time go and what did you even do??

Check out this slide: This shows the average time that a teenager (I know you guys aren’t one yet!) spends each day doing one of these tasks.”

(SLIDE: THE TIME IS RIGHT)

“When you step back and look at the average time a teen spends on these tasks, a few things stand out to me. Teens spend more time watching YouTube than doing homework! Plus, I was not expecting the non-homework reading number to be so low! And finally, I wish my own kids would spend 31 minutes a day straightening the house.

“In all seriousness, some of these numbers are surprising. You might think that people would prioritize the most important or urgent tasks over others. How do people have two hours a day to devote to YouTube, but only ten minutes to relaxing and thinking?”



“At the same time, these numbers are not *that* surprising. The best way to determine what you care about is by looking at how you spend your time. Pause for a moment to really think about how you spend your time.

Allow a brief moment for kids to think.

“When you consider the amount of time spent on the daily tasks, what is important to you? Are the tasks you spend the most time doing . . . important? Are you spending your time productively? Do you think any of your time is wasted? Are you making time for other people?”

“It’s important for us to think about how we spend our time. In fact, this is something Jesus cared about too! And if we’re looking for good ideas for how we should be spending our time, reading through the Bible is a great place to start! The writers of the Bible had personal experiences with God. And God inspired them to write down what they learned so people like us could discover more about what it means to trust God and follow Jesus. Let’s head to the Bible now!”

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 5 MIN)

“Each of us fills our day with activities. Some are important like math class, eating lunch, sleeping, or getting ourselves clean. Other times are filled with insignificant actions like mindlessly watching trick-shot videos on YouTube or binge-watching our favorite show. As we think about what Jesus did, it’d be worth considering how we might use some of our time to help others.

“We can take our cue from Jesus! Each one of us can keep our eyes open for what the people around us need. And when we see a need we can help with, we can pause, shine Jesus’ light, and show compassion! Your mom may need help folding the socks. Your baby brother could use help eating their baby food. Maybe your grandma could use a quick phone call to tell her how much you care about her!

“When we follow Jesus, we can show Jesus to others. And sometimes this looks like taking the time to care for others.

“Here’s the thing..

(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

“Making time for people and meeting their needs is a big deal. It’s also one of the best ways to show compassion to others. God always makes time for us, so we can make time for others.

“Think on this question...

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) ‘When has someone made time for you?’

Have kids turn and talk to their shoulder partner for 60 seconds. Your KQ slide on Playlister will keep track of time for you. While kids are talking, walk around and listen



in to what they are saying and give prompts if needed. Don't try to resolve anything, kids will have a further discussion within their small group time.

“Ok friends, come back together in 3, 2, 1...”

“I heard some great thoughts floating around. You are going to have more of a chance to talk about this in small group time, but for now let's pray.

“Dear God, it means so much that you gave us the gift of compassion. I pray that we use it wisely and that we are generous with it! I pray that we remember to slow down and see the needs around us. I pray that we have courage to do the things that are hard or inconvenient, and I pray that we have faith that you will work all things for our good and your glory. Amen.”

DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS



SMALL GROUP

Monthly Virtue: Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else’s needs.

Bible Story: Take Time (Jesus Heals Bartimaeus) • Mark 10:46-52

Key Question: When has someone made time for you?

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

Memory Verse: Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven.” Matthew 5:16 (NirV)

TALK ABOUT IT (K-5th)

There are no right or wrong answers but try to challenge the kids to think deeper.

Key Question: “When has someone made time for you? Tell us how that made you feel.”

(Answers will vary: when I might be seen by people who don’t know Jesus – God could use me to start a conversation with them about what I believe; when I am mad at my siblings – God could use me to be a peacemaker in my family, etc.)

LOOK IT UP (K-5th)

Grab Bibles, look up, and read the following passage.

Look Up: Mark 10:46-52

Say: “The book of Mark is in the *New Testament*. Mark is one of the 4 Gospels – the books that talk about Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. The author, Mark, wasn’t one of Jesus’ disciples. Most believe that he was the one who went out on missionary journeys with Peter and then Paul to tell people all over the Good News of Jesus.”

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

(Non-Coated Paper Plates – 1 per kid, Markers)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a paper plate and a marker.
- Direct the kids to place the plate on top of their heads.
- Explain that you will give them directions on what to draw while holding the plate on their head. No peeking!
- Encourage kids to do their best to follow your directions even though they can’t see what they’re drawing. It probably will be difficult and not look like it’s supposed to.
- Share the following instructions:
 - Step 1: Draw a large heart, taking up as much of the plate as you can.

- Step 2: Draw an oval in the middle of the heart.
- Step 3: Draw a small circle inside the oval.
- Step 4: Draw an even smaller circle in the middle of that circle, and color that small circle in.
- Invite kids to take their plates off their heads, and look at their pictures.
- Reveal your example during the conversation below.

What You Say:

“Great job on your drawings! What do you think it resembles? *(Invite responses. Show the kids your example if they're not able to tell what they've illustrated. It's an eye inside a heart.)* Does it look *exactly* like an eye with a heart around it? Maybe not. It's so much easier to draw when we can look at the paper to see what we're doing. In fact, let's try it again, but this time you can look.

- Have kids flip over plate and do it again while looking.

“Sometimes, we need help to see who Jesus is. What are some things we can do to learn more about Jesus? *(Invite responses, like: going to Small Group, reading the Bible, praying, asking questions, etc.)* As we grow and learn more about Jesus, it's important to help others see who He is too. Bartimaeus experienced God's love and compassion because Jesus took the time to help him. We can help others see who Jesus is when we make time to help others. As we follow Jesus, God wants to help us not only see people who need help, but to also be the ones to do something about it.”

[Make It Personal] (Recall a time you were busy but still chose to stop and help someone. What did you do? Were you glad you took the time to help? How did the person react?)

ASK for 2nd-5th graders:

- Do you like receiving help from someone else? Why or why not?
- Why is time so valuable?
- What are some ways you can make time to help others?

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

(Supplies Vary)

What You Do:

- Follow the instructions of the “Books of the Bible” activity that is in your bin.

PRAY

“God, you are so gracious with us. You are always with us in every situation. You care for us and take time for whatever we are going through. Thank you for your example. I pray that we become more like you and learn how to have compassion by taking time for others. Amen.”

