



Character of God

Week 1: Compassion

CCV Groups Discussion Guide

OPENING QUESTION:

What is the greatest act of compassion you have ever personally witnessed or have heard about? How do you define Compassion?

GROUPS [VIDEO GUIDE](#)

READ:

- [Exodus 34:1-9](#)

DISCUSS:

- Can you share a time when someone showed you unexpected mercy? How did that make you feel?
- In what ways have you personally experienced God's mercy? Can you share specific examples?
- Are there specific groups of people or specific behaviors in others that make it difficult for you to show them mercy?
- Read [Exodus 34:6-7](#); [Nehemiah 9:17](#); [Psalm 86:15](#); and [Psalm 103:8](#). What stands out to you when reading these verses side by side?
- How could/should experiencing God's mercy affect how we interact with others in our day-to-day lives?
- Share the name of a family member, co-worker, neighbor, or friend who you think needs to experience God's mercy. Is there anything you could do about that?

PRAYER:

Pray for the people you mentioned before by name who need to experience God's mercy and ask the Lord to show us how to do that.

SCRIPTURES:

- **Psalm 103:13**, "Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him."
- **Isaiah 54:8**, "In an outburst of anger I hid My face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you," says the Lord your Redeemer."
- **Lamentations 3:22–23**, "The Lord's loving kindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."
- **Joel 2:13**, "And rend your heart and not your garments. Now return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, abounding in lovingkindness and relenting of evil."
- **Isaiah 49:15**, "Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you."
- **Ephesians 4:32**, "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."
- **Mark 6:34**, "When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had **compassion** on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things."
- **2 Corinthians 1:3–4**, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."
- **1 Peter 3:8**, "Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind."
- **1 John 3:17**, "But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?"
- **Colossians 3:12**, "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, **compassionate** hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,..."
- **Matthew 14:14**, "When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had **compassion** on them and healed their sick."
- **Matthew 9:36**, "When he saw the crowds, he had **compassion** for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."