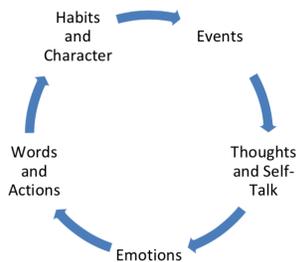


The Habits of Grace

Compassion

March 7, 2021 / Dan Solofra

How can I be sure of lasting love?



⁵ Then the Lord came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the Lord. ⁶ And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The Lord, the Lord, **the compassionate and gracious God**, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷ maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. **Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished**; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.” **Exodus 34:5-7.** NIV

God’s heart is full of _____ and _____.

His actions are always consistent with his _____.

¹¹ Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. ¹² As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out—the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. ¹³ When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, “Don’t cry.” ¹⁴ Then he went up and touched the bier they were carrying him on, and the bearers stood still. He said, “Young man, I say to you, get up!” ¹⁵ The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother. ¹⁶ They were all filled with awe and praised God. “A great prophet has appeared among us,” they said. “God has come to help his people.” **Luke 7:11-16, NIV**

Jesus’ habits of compassion:

1. Jesus _____ me.
2. Jesus _____ me where I am.
3. Jesus’ heart _____ to me.
4. Jesus _____ to me.
5. Jesus _____ his hands to me.

¹⁶ They were all filled with awe and praised God. “A great prophet has appeared among us,” they said. “God has come to help his people.”

Luke 7:16, NIV

In Jesus we see God _____ us.

In Jesus we see God _____ us.

⁴ “I have sinned,” he said, “for I have betrayed innocent blood.” “What is that to us?” they replied. “That’s your responsibility.”

Matthew 27:4, NIV

The opposite of “I love you” is = “_____.”

⁸ Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be **compassionate** and humble. **1 Peter 3:8, NIV**

God’s history of compassion _____ will result in a heart of compassion _____ and works of compassion _____.

MEMORY VERSE

¹⁶ They were all filled with awe and praised God. “A great prophet has appeared among us,” they said. “God has come to help his people.”

Luke 7:16, NIV

My next step: The opposite of “I love you” is “I don’t care.” God does care, about all of us! I will lean into God’s love and compassion to me. Having been shown compassion, I will develop both a heart and hands for action in my life.

What’s your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.

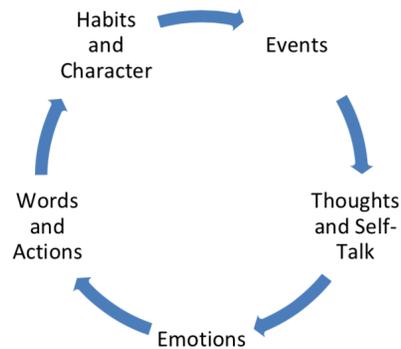
Impact Groups

Habits of Grace: Compassion

Getting Started: Besides your regular church offering, what is one charity to which you have donated? Why did you choose it?

Going back to Sunday

What truth from Sunday's message was most impactful for you? How has the truth made a difference in your thinking, your emotions, or your words and actions this week?



Having compassion means that your heart goes out to someone in need and you take action to help them in their need.

Give an example of an act of compassion shown by you or to you by another person. How did that act of compassion effect your thought cycle?

Read Exodus 34:6-7

*⁶And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, **the compassionate and gracious God**, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. **Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished**; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."*

God is not either compassionate or just. He is BOTH compassionate and just. How did he show both of these character qualities perfectly by sending Jesus into the world?

Read Luke 7:11-16

¹¹Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. ¹²As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out—the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. ¹³When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, "Don't cry." ¹⁴Then he went up and touched the bier they were carrying him on, and the bearers stood still. He said, "Young man, I say to you, get up!" ¹⁵The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother. ¹⁶They were all filled with awe and praised God. "A great prophet has appeared among us," they said. "God has come to help his people."

Verse 13 describes Jesus' compassion for this woman. Think about Jesus' life circumstances, how might they have added to this specific case of compassion?

How does God's compassion to you – the fact that he cares and has come to help – affect you on a day-to-day basis?

How can viewing each person you meet as a child of God help to develop the habit of compassion in your life?

My Next Step

I will develop the habit of compassion in my life! I will open my eyes to see at least one person in need this week and show kindness and compassion to them. I will also keep them in mind as someone to invite to CrossWalk.

Doing Life Together

Easter is April 4! Check out our Easter Invest and Invite event on the Church Center App and begin to pray for the unchurched person that you would like to invite to worship with you on Easter.

Prayer

Pray together as a group for about 10 minutes. Many groups do this in a circle format, allowing each person in the circle to pray or pass as they wish until all have had a chance to pray.

Reminders

CrossWalk Kids is open for kids birth through grade 5 in the 9 am service.

Christian Essentials 4 - Invite will be offered March 13th. Sign up today!

Midtown is now meeting on Sundays at 10 am at Camelback High School.