

Exploring our Core Values

Week 5: Compassion

Jesus met people at their point of need and revealed his love and truth. We aim to follow his example in our community, in our everyday lives.

WELCOME

Spend time relaxing and sharing together.

What does the word compassion mean to you with respect to your faith?

WORSHIP

Read Psalm 103

What does the Psalm tell us about compassion. Are there any particular verses that you find challenging or encouraging?

Alternatively (or in addition) sing a praise hymn/song.

WORD

Read Romans 12:9-21

1. How does this short passage summarise what compassion is?

2. What does the phrase 'to love our neighbour as ourselves' mean?

Growth Group Notes

Autumn 2022



A story of compassion in practice was told by Jesus when an expert of the law was seeking to confirm he followed the law, only to have demonstrated to him that there are no limits to the love that God intends for us to show to our neighbours.

Read Luke 10:25-37

3. How was the man going to Jericho viewed by the robbers?

4. What may have caused the priest and the Levite to walk by on the other side of the other road, rather than stop and help the injured man?

If we picture the scene, an obvious question anyone may ask is, "What am I letting myself in for if I stop and help him? He was naked, injured, likely no wallet and no identification. Who is this man?"

5. Why did the Samaritan stop?

6. What did the Samaritan do for the man?

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7. What do you notice about his attitude to taking responsibility?

8. What can we learn about financially giving to the needs of others from this passage?

9. What can we learn from this passage about what compassion is in practice?

The Samaritan did not let the cost or risks of acting prevent him from having compassion on the man.

10. What stops us from following the example of the Samaritan in today's world?

11. In what ways can we put the principles of the account into practice?



12. In what ways can we put the principles of Romans 12:9-21 into practice?

Our ability to love our neighbour is dependent on our reliance on the Lord himself. Without His Holy Spirit in our lives, we will struggle to love others as God intends.

WHAT NEXT?

We may not have naked and beaten-up men and women in our streets. However there are people who are living in poverty in Alsager or addicted to drugs or with no hope. What practical things can we do to respond with compassion?

There will also be people who come to the church who are in need, who need a friend, who need a listening ear, who need to know someone cares. What practical things can we do to respond with compassion?

Encourage each member to think of just one or two ways they can realistically and practically commit to taking a risk to support 'their neighbour'.