

Together @ Home

June 21, 2020

Third Sunday after
Pentecost



Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together a story about Jesus sending out his twelve disciples.

You can find the story in your Bible in:

Matthew 9:35-10:10

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your family.



A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of Jesus showing compassion to those who were hurting.

Please help me to notice when people are sad, worried, or upset and show me how to share your love with them.

Thank you for always showing compassion to me. Help me to show compassion as I listen to, care for, and love others like you do.

In Jesus name,
Amen

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

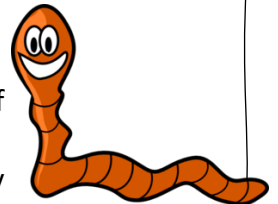
What happened when Jesus saw the crowds of worried, helpless people?

According to verse 36, Jesus "had compassion" on the people. One definition of compassion is "empathy in action." We show empathy when we notice how others feel, and try to understand their feelings. One way to do this is by imagining ourselves in their place and thinking about how we would feel if what happened to them happened to us. But compassion takes empathy a step further--when you are compassionate, you act in ways to help those who are in need. Jesus sent his disciples to show compassion to others.

A question for children to ask adults

Can you think of a time when someone has shown compassion to you?

Family Activity 1



During rainy periods worms often come out of the ground to migrate (move) to other areas. When the ground is wet, they can move safely over sidewalks and driveways. But when the sun comes out, they can dry out before they can return to the soil.

Toward the end of a rainy day, venture outside to conduct a "worm rescue." Help the worms that have been caught out on the concrete by carefully picking them up and placing them in the grass or a garden.

It feels good to help those in need--even if they are just small creatures. The worms faced a life or death issue. If they didn't get back into the cool, damp soil before the sun came out, they would have dried out and died. We noticed their problem and cared enough to help.

Taking care of people is even more rewarding. We show compassion to people whenever we notice that someone has a problem and care enough to do something to help. When we show compassion to anyone or anything, we are being loving and merciful like God.



A verse to remember

Psalm 86 v 5

Lord, you are kind and forgiving and have great love for those who call to you.

To learn this verse together you could come up with some actions to help you remember it. Why not decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week?

Family Activity 2

How far can you stretch?

God's compassion stretches wider than we can imagine.

Set up a marker – if you are outside you could use a chalk mark on the floor, or indoors use an object to mark your starting point. As a family see how far you can stretch – make sure you stay connected to one another, but see how far a distance you can cover working together.

If you have a tape measure why not measure how far your family stretched and challenge another family to see how far they can stretch!

Make sure you warm up first!



Active Prayer

At a family mealtime, or while on a long drive, work together to write a family prayer asking God to give you His love and concern for others.

Read each "call" in the example Celtic prayer below and ask your children to suggest a "response."

*(*Suggested responses are provided.)*

Call: *Lord . . . open our eyes . . .*

Response: *to see those around us who are sad or in need.*

Call: *Lord . . . open our hands . . .*

Response: *to share the things we would rather hang on to.*

Call: *Lord . . . guard our lips . . .*

Response: *from saying unkind words.*

Call: *Lord . . . break our hearts . . .*

Response: *with the things that make You sad.*

Call: *Lord . . . wet our eyes . . .*

Response: *we want to cry with those who are hurting.*

Call: *Lord . . . use our feet . . .*

Response: *to carry blessings to others.*



Helping Older Children

The world is full of hurting people who need to know of God's love and compassion.

You could use this story as a starting point for a conversation not only about God's compassion towards us, but also about our responsibility as Christ-followers to have compassion for others. Jesus saw people's worries, troubles, and helplessness and responded with action, and he sent out his disciples to do the same.

God hears our cries and our prayers, and knows of our need for compassion in this time as well.

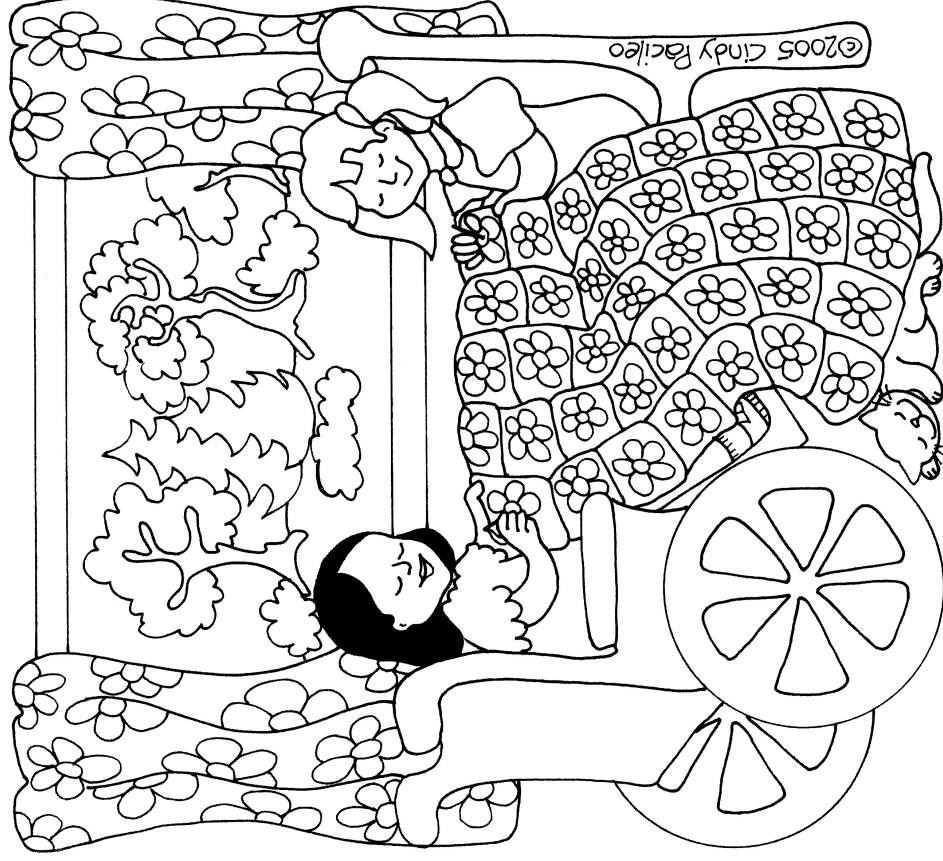
The Lord is good to all, and His mercy is over all that He has made."

-Psalm 145:9

Coloring Page

Compassion

Understanding another person's difficulty
and wanting to help



- I notice when someone is hurt or needs a friend.
- I stop what I am doing and show that I care.
- I ask what hurts and listen patiently.
- I forgive others and myself when we make mistakes.
- I help a person or animal in need.



Compassion helps me to show that I care.

PUZZLE SHEET

How many hearts
can you count?

Can you find all these words
from today's Bible story in
the word search?

COMPASSION

CROWDS

DISCIPLES

FEW

GOOD NEWS

HARVEST

HEAL

KINGDOM

PLENTIFUL

SEND

SICK

WORKERS

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

Help Jesus find his way
to the people.

