

Leader Guide

Intentional Compassion: Caring for Others

Date: March 3, 2021

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37

Big Idea: Caring for another is a gift you can give anytime and anywhere

Guide Pro Tips:

- Compassion is love in action.
- God loves all people, so we respond to God's love by loving others.
- God wants us to love all people.
- When we care for others, we are caring for not only them, but ourselves and Jesus.
- You are the hands and feet of Jesus bringing love and compassion.
- No one is beyond the reach of God's love.
- When you do not know what to do or say, just showing up is a powerful form of care.
- God comes where you least expect God to be.
- Loving God and loving others go hand in hand. We cannot love God without loving our neighbor.

Video

Because tonight is a small group night, Anne will host the video and then send everyone out into their breakout rooms.

Small Group Activities

You can mix and match any and all of these activities in your time together in small group.

- Centering Time: Just about a minute to calm down and focus on God and each other.
- Conversation starters: discuss things that really happen in the world.
- Bible Study: on the Good Samaritan
- Journal Question: time for the kids to record what they are thinking and feeling.
- Highs and Lows & Prayers

Centering Time

- Read Psalm 46
- Center on “God is our refuge and Strength, a very present help in trouble”
- Think about who has been help to you in trouble. Could that person or people be working on God’s behalf to show you compassion.
- Sit quietly with these questions for about a minute.

Conversation Starters

Share a time when you saw someone in need of help. What were your first thoughts when you saw this person and the situation they were experiencing? What did you do? How did you feel about your response later?

Neighbors are all people in the world. Jesus tells us to love our neighbors.

- How do I love someone I consider my enemy?
- What does that person gain when I give love and care to them?
- What do I gain?
- What does the world gain?

Bible Study

Read Luke 10: 25-37

- Let’s pretend you are the man who is beaten and left for dead. You are alone on the side of the road; someone stops to help you. Does it make a difference to you who it is that helps you? Why or why not?
- Read Matthew 25: 34-40. Where do we find Jesus today? How do we care for the people mentioned in this text?
- How do you and others at Holy Trinity care for our neighbors close by and around the world?
- How can you care for others in your family?
- Read John 13:33-35. “Just as I have loved you, you should love one another” This is Jesus’ command to his followers. Jesus’ love is unconditional, Jesus is always loving all people. How does that inform how you love and care for others?
- How does Jesus care for you? What is the biggest act of love and care Jesus did?

Journal Question

- To whom did you extend love and compassion this week? What was the circumstance and how did you feel afterwards?

Highs and Lows

Check in with your small group and find out what’s going well and where they are struggling. Thank God for the wins, and ask for God’s presence and help in the lows.