

COMPASSION & MERCY

Definition of Compassion: sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.

Definition of Mercy: compassion or forgiveness shown towards someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm; compassionate treatment, having a capacity to forgive, showing kindness.

1. GOD IS COMPASSIONATE AND MERCIFUL.

Psalms 103:8 The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.

Psalms 121

Psalms 145:8-9 The Lord is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. The Lord is good to everyone. He showers compassion on all his creation.

Exodus 34:6 The Lord passed in front of Moses, calling out, “Yahweh! The Lord! The God of compassion and mercy! I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.”

Lamentations 3:22-23 *The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.*

Romans 5:8 *But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.*

Ephesians 2:4-5 *But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!*

2. HOW COMPASSIONATE AND MERCIFUL ARE WE?

Where we are at in regards to being compassionate and merciful.

1 Peter 3:8-9 *Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted and keep a humble attitude. Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will grant you his blessing.*

Luke 6:36 NIV *Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.*

Luke 6:31 NLT Do to others as you would like them to do to you.

Ephesians 5:2 NLT Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.

3. MAY WE GROW IN OUR COMPASSION AND MERCY FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW GOD.

One way of cultivating compassion and mercy is by asking God to increase our love for the lost.

1 Thessalonians 3:12 NLT And may the Lord make your love for one another and for all people grow and overflow, just as our love for you overflows.

2 Peter 3:9 NIV The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Cultivating compassion and mercy by actually doing something.

1 John 3:18-19 NLT Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. Our actions will show that we

belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God.

1. Pray for them.

John 6:44 “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them.”

2. Remember what it was like for you before you knew Christ.

Matthew 9:10-13 NIV

Jesus came to seek and save that which was lost.

3. Be willing to be spent for them.

May we cultivate hearts of compassion and mercy, just like God’s heart towards us.

CONCLUSION

2 Peter 3:9 NIV The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Jude 1:2 NLT May God give you more and more mercy, peace, and love.