



Our Compassion – *Moving our hearts genuinely.*

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January 17, 2016

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. **Colossians 3:12-14 (NIV)**

WHY IS COMPASSION IMPORTANT?

What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy. **Romans 9:14-16 (NIV)**

"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! **Isaiah 49:15 (NIV)**

HOW DOES COMPASSION CHANGE OTHERS?

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. **1 John 3:16-18 (NIV)**

A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured. **Mark 1:40-42 (NIV)**

Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: "See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere. **Mark 1:43-45 (NIV)**

HOW DOES COMPASSION CHANGE ME?