



**“Caring & sharing as part of God’s family”**

**“Loving our neighbour as we love ourselves” - Luke 10:27**



**Worship at Home**



## Compassion

**‘Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.’ Colossians 3.12**

We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value of **Compassion** together.

### *Read together*

There are many stories in the bible about Jesus noticing the needs of others and showing **compassion**. Once he went off in a boat to find a place far from the crowds where he and his disciples could rest. But when he reached the shore, on the other side of the lake there were yet more people wanting him to help them and heal the sick. *“When Jesus saw the crowd his heart was filled with **compassion**, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.”* Mark 6.34. One day a man asked Jesus a question. "Teacher, what should I do so I can go to Heaven and live forever?" Jesus asked the man what he thought, and the man replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength, and love your neighbour as yourself." The man then asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbour?" and Jesus answered the question with this parable to help people understand.

### **The Parable of the Good Samaritan**

"A Jewish man was walking along a road. He was walking from Jerusalem and heading to a place called Jericho.

The road was rocky and there were small hills all around. The man was enjoying his walk as it was such nice day when suddenly a group of men jumped out from behind a hill. They stole all his belongings and as they didn't want him to follow them, they beat him up very badly, and left him lying and bleeding on the side of the road.

Not long after, a priest who was walking down the same path, noticed the injured man lying on the side of the road but instead of helping the man he crossed the road and walked on the other side and acted like he didn't see him.

Later, another man, called a Levite, was also walking down the road. Levites were people who helped priests with their work. Perhaps he would help the man. But you know what he did? He slowed down and walked a little closer to the man, but then kept walking without helping him at all.

A few minutes later, another man came walking by. This man was a Samaritan. Jews didn't like Samaritans and usually didn't treat them very well. The man who was lying injured on the road was a Jew. So, you would think that the Samaritan would walk by without helping him, just like the Priest and the Levite.

But as soon as the Samaritan saw the man, he went over to him and felt **compassion** for him. He put bandages on his injuries and poured oil and wine (which were quite expensive) on the sores to prevent them from getting worse. Then he lifted the man onto his donkey and took him to a hotel to take care of him.

The next day the Samaritan paid the hotel some money so the man could stay until he was well enough to leave. If the injured man wasn't better when he returned the Samaritan said he would pay for any extra cost."

### *Reflect together*

After Jesus finished the story, he asked, "Which of the three men do you think was a neighbour to the man who was left beaten on the side of the road?" The man who asked him the question at the beginning replied, "The one who had **compassion** and helped him." Jesus told him, "Go and do the same."

Why do you think that Jesus told this story after the man had asked him the question, "Who is my neighbour?"

In a quiet moment, bring to mind an occasion when you stopped what you were doing to help someone else. Can you remember how you felt inside?

## Respond together

Dear God

Help us to be compassionate,

To think about others and what they are going through,

Encourage others and help them to achieve their goals,

Listen to the needs of others,

Be kind and smile,

Give others our time,

Think before we act,

Try to stay well and happy so we can care for others and ourselves.

Amen

## Activities!

Jesus told the parable about the Lost Sheep because he wants us to know he is like the Good Shepherd who comes to the rescue. He will always show **compassion** and kindness towards us when we are in need.

Use your bible or an internet Bible (DLTK's Bible Stories for Children is a useful website) and read the parable of the Lost Sheep to yourself or you could share the story with someone else then make a cartoon strip of the parable. Colour it in and use speech and thought bubbles to show what the characters are thinking, saying and feeling.

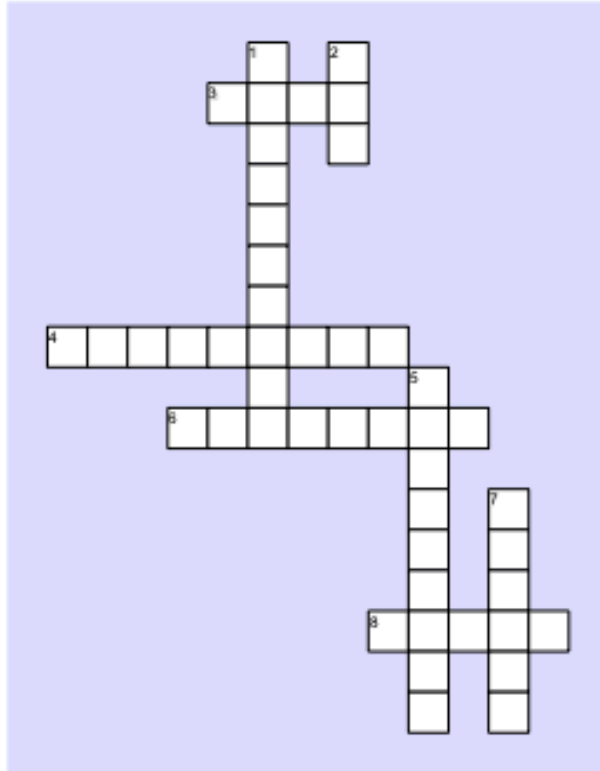


Find out about an inspirational character who has demonstrated the value of **compassion** in their life. You could write a mini biography of their life or make a story board or collage to show what they have achieved.

An example of a **compassionate** inspirational person is Florence Nightingale.

## crossword puzzle

### The Good Samaritan Crossword Puzzle



#### across:

- 3: We are to \_\_\_\_\_ God with all our heart, soul and strength.  
4: The compassionate man was a \_\_\_\_\_.  
6: The Samaritan wrapped the man's injuries in these.  
8: The Samaritan took the injured man to one of these.

#### down:

- 1: The Samaritan showed \_\_\_\_\_ to the injured man.  
2: The man who was beaten was a \_\_\_\_\_.  
5: Jesus told this parable to answer the question, "Who is my \_\_\_\_\_?"  
7: The first person to pass by was a \_\_\_\_\_.

Compassion is...

Make up an acrostic poem to express the value of **Compassion**. I have given you a start with the first two lines. Can you finish it off?

**C**aring about others,

**O**ffering help,