

**BUILDING BLOCK GROUPS**

***COMPASSION***

The word **compassion** means: (1) a deep awareness and sympathy of the sufferings of another. It also has a second definition: (2) the humane quality of understanding the suffering of others and wanting to do something about it.

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| In addition to having the sorrow that is felt for the suffering of others, it is a willingness  and an urge to assist them. The word actually means to do something about feeling sorry,  to be affected by their situation.  It is to enter into one's sorrow and pain. When we feel true compassion,  we will be moved inwardly. Having empathy; to have one's heart reach out toward the  needs of others.  To be compassionate, to pity; to be kindhearted.  It means to be tenderhearted; to be sensitive and affectionate, to be moved with tender  feelings over the pain and sufferings of others.  We are instructed by Peter to be united in brotherly love. **( 1 Peter 3:8-9)**  **He means there should be no fussing and arguing within the Lord's body.**  **Is it a possibility that the body has lost some compassion for each other?**  Also in **Mark 5:21-43** we read of Jesus healing the woman with the issue of blood and  raising to life again the daughter of the ruler of the synagogue.  The Lord Jesus Christ demonstrated His great power with His enormous compassion.  His death was motivated by compassion, as was His power over nature and evil spirits.  ***What are some ways I can change towards my compassion towards those in***  ***the body?***  ***What issue has me feeling selfish in my compassion walk with God?***   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | There are many examples given in the Bible where we read of Jesus' compassion.  His compassion was shown for a demon-possessed man who lived among tombs.  People such as He were considered unclean by rabbis of the day.  Polite society avoided them.  Our Lord reached out and helped those he encountered who were in need.  He had compassion for a diseased woman, and for a dead girl's family. | |  | |  | |  | |   In **Job 6:1-30** we are told how compassion can go beyond words.  Job said that his friend Eliphaz's advice was like eating the tasteless white of an egg.  A. This shows us how ill- advised counsel is distasteful when someone is going through a  severe trial.  B. Inside they are upset, even though they may listen quietly and politely.  C. We should be slow in giving advice to those who are hurting.  D. Many times they often need compassion more than they need advice.  ***When was the last time I just listen and did not say a word?***  ***How can I become a better listener and a less talker?***  In **Mark Chapter 2:1-12**  We read of the paralytic's need and how it moved his friends to action.  a. The action they took was to bring their friend to Jesus.  b. There are many people who have both physical and spiritual needs you can meet or  help meet.  c. This can be done by yourself or with others who also are concerned.  d. We see how the human need moved his four friends to action, may it also move you to  an action that is compassionate  ***Do you act when you see someone’s need?***  ***Is your action based on what you can get out of it?*** |