

STUDY GUIDE

WEEK 11
COMPASSIONATE
HEART

# **INTRODUCTION**

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Colossians 3:12 NIV

This week of our study begs us to put legs on our faith! Compassion is more than feeling sorry for someone- it is care in action. Having a compassionate heart is following in the footsteps of Jesus. Living with a compassionate heart means our time, money, and resources are spent with those who need a helping hand. The compassionate heart actively moves toward the lonely, outcast, hurting, and marginalized. It shows the kindness of our loving God to each and every person.

## **DISCOVER**

Below you will find questions for use in your own personal study, Bible study, neighborhood gathering, or dinner table with family and friends. Record your answers to help you reflect on and share the things God is teaching you.

Read: Luke 10:25-37

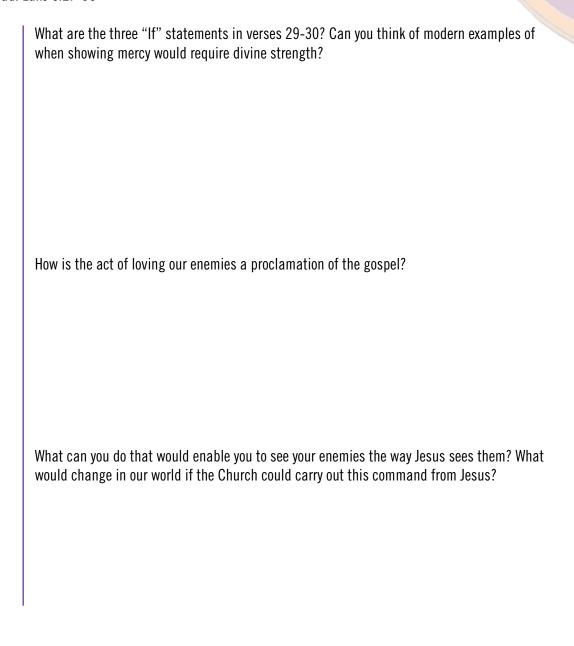
Why would Jesus choose to have the hero in this story be a Samaritan - a despised enemy of his Jewish listeners? If this were written today, who do you think the hero in story would be?

Other than money, what did it cost the Samaritan to care for the beaten man? What barriers are hardest for you to get over when it comes to helping those in need?

Who has God put in your path that he wants you to extend mercy toward?

# **DISCOVER**

Read: Luke 6:27-36



### **PRAY**

Seeking and listening to God in prayer are vital to our relationship with him. Take a moment to encounter God in prayer before you conclude your study.

First, pray to see everyone as a beloved child of God. Next, pray Ephesians 3:14-19 for your enemies asking God to drench them in his love. Finally, pray that God would give you the strength to show mercy even when you don't want to.

### **ACT**

The best thing you can do to grow in your relationship with Jesus this week is to put into practice the discoveries you've made during your study.

True empathy and compassion spring from relationship. Consider extending an invitation to someone different than you. Have a neighbor over for dinner or invite your enemy to coffee. Serve with a ministry partner such as Embassy of Hope, serving children and adults overcoming sexual abuse, domestic violence, and human trafficking in San Antonio. For more information about our partners visit *oakhillschurch.com/cityserve*.

# **WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READING**

Filling our hearts and minds with the Word of God enables us to discern what is right and true. Use these additional scripture passages to continue your study this week.

 YOUVERSION DAYS 71-77

 Colossians 3:12-17
 Matthew 9:35-38
 Psalm 116:1-19

 2 Samuel 9:1-13
 Matthew 15:32-37
 Matthew 25:31-40

 Genesis 45:1-14
 Romans 5:7-8

 Luke 10:25-37
 Luke 6:27-36