

Character Trait for May 13-17 is Compassion

Ephesians 5:1, "Therefore, be imitators of God"

CHARACTER: the qualities built into an individual's life that determine their responses, regardless of circumstances.

Compassion: Investing whatever is necessary to heal the hurts of others.

Weekly Verse: Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

Quote: "Compassion speaks louder than condemnation."

Bible Stories:

Matthew 9:35-36 "Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."

Matthew 14:13-14 "When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick."

Matthew 20:32-34 "Jesus stopped and called them. 'What do you want me to do for you?' He asked. 'Lord,' they answered, 'we want our sight.' Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him."

Luke 15:19-20 "I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants'. So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him."

Discussion Questions:

- 1) What do these verses about Jesus tell us about his compassion?
- 2) Why was it important for Jesus to deal with the physical needs of the people who were following him?