

# COMPASSION



## The value of compassion:

In this world of "me", compassion has become less popular. Cruelty, inhumanity, insensibility, and violence are the "plate of the day"; they are the anti-values that surround and influence our students today. For this reason, it is important to study the perfect example of Jesus, who had compassion on us... "in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8) so that we can put into practice the true love that He teaches us.

## Lesson Objective:

To learn what true love is and how Jesus demonstrated this love.  
To study what compassion means and how to put it into practice.

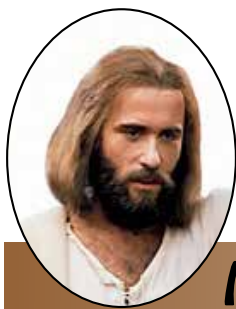
*Blessed are the merciful, for they  
will receive mercy.*

*Matthew 5:7*

## MATERIALS

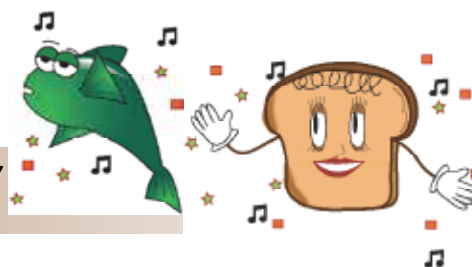
- Bible
- Scissors
- Glue
- Crayons
- Recycled Cardboard
- Yarn
- Balloons

Being merciful is to have compassion for others. This isn't always the easiest, especially when we don't get along with that person, and the last thing we want to do is try to understand how they feel, or treat them kindly. But God is very clear on this, He will have compassion on those who have compassion for others. Jesus had compassion for EVERYONE, not just for those who were nice to Him. Sometimes we think we don't have to be compassionate to certain people, and yet we still expect compassion from God. We need God's compassion, mercy, without which we would still be lost in sin, sadness, and misery. We must always remember our need for God's compassion, which will help us have compassion on others.



# Part 1

## Motivational Activity!



Help the students understand that often we think of ourselves as most important.

1. Have everyone tie a balloon to their ankle with a 1/2 meter of yarn.
2. The goal of the game is to pop as many balloons as possible with your foot while at the same time, protecting your own from being popped.
3. They are not allowed to touch the balloons or yarn with their hands.
4. The game is finished when all the balloons are popped.

Discuss:

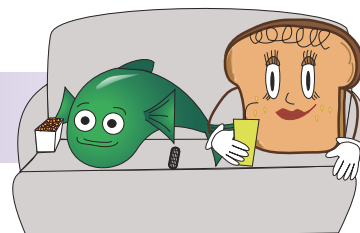
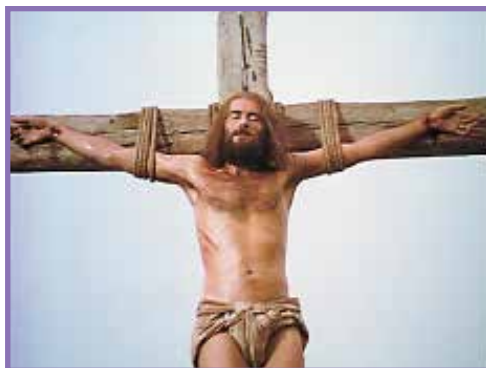
- What is most important for you, your own stuff or others? (*Answers may vary.*)

... is the most important.

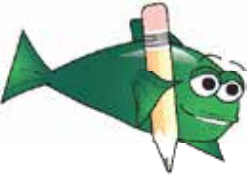


## The Life of Jesus!

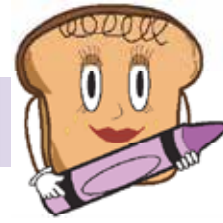
Movie "Jesus for Children"  
Chapters 9 & 10



Luke  
23:13-56



## Activity Time!



- ➔ To learn what the Bible says about this lesson, have the students do the activities found on **pages 20 - 21** of the student booklet. (reference page 419)

Instruct the students to:

1. Read the Bible passage in groups of 2 to 4 and answer the application questions on page 20.
2. Color the picture of Jesus on page 21.
3. Take a few minutes to write a personal prayer to God in response to what was learned.
4. Together, repeat the Bible verse several times to help remember it for the following part of the lesson.

Grade 6 COMPASSION Lesson 7

**1 Corinthians 12:31b & 13:1-8, 13**

<sup>31</sup>And I will show you a still more excellent way.  
<sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.  
<sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. <sup>4</sup>Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup>It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup>Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. <sup>9</sup>And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

**Application-15** What are the characteristics of love? \_\_\_\_\_

**Application-16** What are not the characteristics of love? \_\_\_\_\_

**Application-17** What is true love? \_\_\_\_\_

**Remember** Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Matthew 5:7

20 Vital Values with Jesus

Grade 6 COMPASSION Lesson 7

**Jesus died on the cross to forgive our sins; God had compassion on us.**

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39

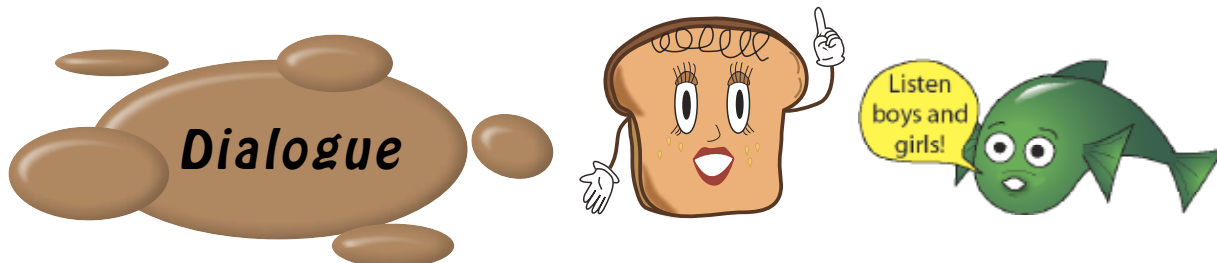
MY RESPONSE TO GOD: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I LOVE YOU, GOD!

Vital Values with Jesus 21



Discuss the story of Jesus and the reading from the student book, talking about the death of Jesus, what true love is, and how Jesus demonstrated this love.

- What was Jesus' death like? (It was horrible. It was the worst possible way to die.)
- Two of the Roman death penalties were crucifixion and death through being whipped. 40 lashes was a slow and painful death. They gave Jesus 39 lashes so that he wouldn't die, and then afterwards they could crucify Him. This means that Jesus suffered both procedures of extreme pain... all this happened after He had already been beaten, scoffed at, spit upon, kicked...
- Could He have freed Himself? (yes. Jesus is God and everything is possible for Him.)
- Why did he suffer this way? (He loves us so much that he suffered in this way so that He could forgive us and enable us to be together with God. If we hadn't been saved, we would still be in sin, misery, and sadness. Jesus didn't want us to be like that)

- Jesus suffered more than any other person has ever suffered in this world, and He did it to forgive all the bad things that we have done, thought, and said, and through this save us. What is our response to what Jesus did? (ask for His forgiveness, His help to change the bad things we do and to help us put into practice His teachings.)
- Explain how Jesus' forgiveness and salvation is important for you. (Answers may vary. Ex.: thanks to His death and resurrection, I'm forgiven, loved, I have hope...)
- What part of the reading stood out to you and why? (Answers may vary.)

**Application-15** What are the characteristics of love? (patience, kindness, rejoices in the truth, bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things, love never ends.)

**Application-16** What are the characteristics of love not? (not envious, or boastful, or arrogant, or rude, not insisting on its own way, is not irritable, not resentful, not rejoicing in wrongdoing.)

- How did Jesus demonstrate this type of love in His life and death? (Give specific examples from His life, His miracles, etc. In His death, He forgave those who crucified Him, He didn't harbor resentment, and didn't talk badly to them, etc.)
- Did Jesus only love those who loved Him? (no, He loved everyone, including those who had treated Him terribly and cursed Him, etc.)
- Did Jesus only die for those who had treated Him well? (no, He died for everyone, including those who killed Him, spat on Him, mocked Him, hit Him, etc.)
- Did Jesus think about Himself during His life or death, or did He think of others? (He thought of others. The reason He came to earth was to live and die for everyone.)

**Application-17** What is true love? (the kind of love that thinks of others first)

- Many times life is similar to the game we played at the beginning of this lesson. We only think about ourselves, and look out for our own good. But God teaches us that true love is thinking about others first. How can we put into practice this true love? (Have the students give specific examples in their lives. Ex.: forgive a friend to whom you are harboring resentment, not get angry at my little brother, etc.)
- Most often love is described as an emotion, but God describes it very differently. Is love a decision in what we do, and in treating others well? (yes)



## Closing and Prayer!

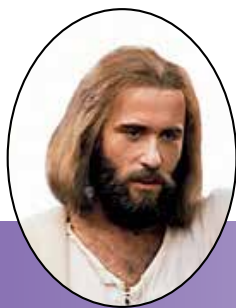
To close, read the following lesson review and pray with the children:



"Today we learned about love, its characteristics, and those things that it isn't. True love is the type of love that thinks about others first. Jesus let them kill Him because He loved us with a true love. He didn't want us to be far from God, sad, and miserable. He saved us and showed us love. Now we should make a commitment to draw closer to God and place our lives in Jesus' hands, believing that He will help us put into practice this true love as well."

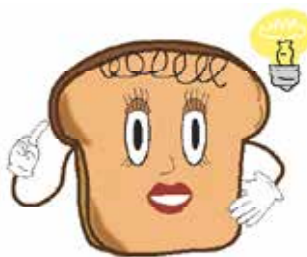
Each student writes out their own prayer in their student booklet in response to what they've learned in this lesson. **We love you God!**





## Part 2

### Remember!



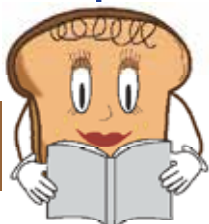
1. What did we learn in the first part of this lesson?

or

What was the movie/story about in the first part of this lesson?

2. Remind the students that:

- Jesus saved us by dying to forgive our sins.
- He suffered a terrible death because He loved us with a true love
- Love is patient, kind, bears all things, believes all things, endures and hopes all things, rejoices in the truth.
- Love is not envious, boastful, arrogant, rude, does not insist on its own way, is not irritable, not resentful, doesn't rejoice in wrongdoing. True love thinks of others first.



### In the Bible!



To explore what God says in the Bible and how to apply it in our daily life:

1. Write the following verse on the board.
2. Read it to the children.
3. Answer any questions they might have.
4. Read it with the children several times.
5. Do the following activity to learn and remember the Bible verse.

Blessed are the merciful, for they  
will receive mercy.

Matthew 5:7

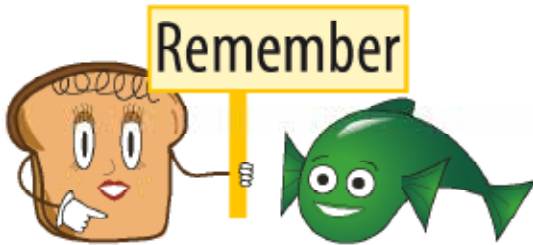
**Engrave these words on your mind  
and in your thoughts!**

*The Bible*



**Blessed are the merciful, for they  
will receive mercy.**

**Matthew 5:7**



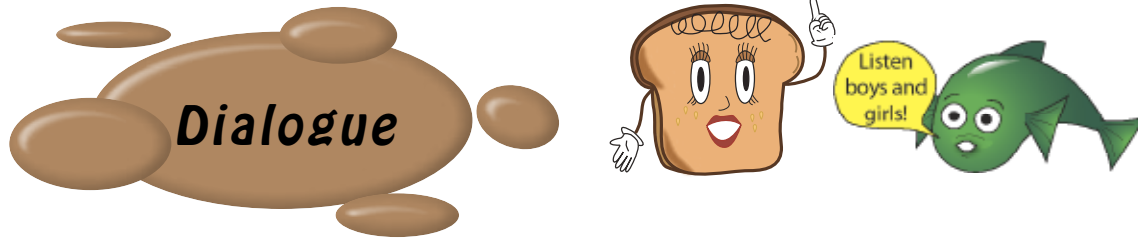
To learn and memorize the Bible verse do the following activity with your students:

1. Have all the students stand shoulder to shoulder at the front of the class.
2. They then place an arm on the person's shoulder next to them. Then instruct them to move together from one side of the classroom to the other, while repeating the verse together.
3. Then the teacher says, "groups of 3" and all the students must form groups of 3 students as quickly as possible, and then repeating the verse together in their group, moving back and forth.
4. Repeat step 3 a few times with groups of 2, 5, 8, or each student alone. Finish the game when everyone knows the verse well.



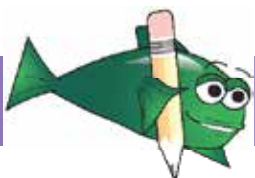
#### EXTRA BIBLE VERSES RELATED TO THIS LESSON

Those who are kind reward themselves, but the cruel do themselves harm.	Proverbs 11:17
But with everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the Lord, your Redeemer.	Isaiah 54:8
For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.	James 2:13
But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—	Ephesians 2:4-5
Yet he, being compassionate, forgave their iniquity, and did not destroy them...	Psalms 78:38
For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.	Psalms 86:5
No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.	John 15:13
Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.	1 John 3:18

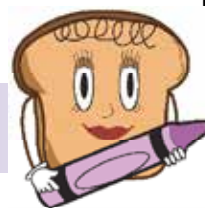


Discuss the Bible verse with the students, talking about the meaning of compassion and how to put it into practice.

- What is mercy? (it is a synonym for compassion. It is a term that refers to benevolence, forgiveness, and kindness as a virtue... -www.wikipedia.com-)
- Why are we often insensitive to other people in our life? (Because we have become accustomed to violence and its images. We also don't care about those whom we don't know personally.)
- The Bible says: "But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—" Ephesians 2:4-5 In what way did Jesus have compassion on us? (He saved us even when we didn't deserve it.)
- Do we deserve what Jesus did for us? (no, but God showed us mercy in this way.)
- Having mercy and compassion are showing love to those who don't deserve it as well as those who do. The Bible tells us that: "Those who are kind (compassionate) reward themselves, but the cruel do themselves harm. Proverbs 11:17 Why does being kind and compassionate do us good and bring us a reward? (When we are compassionate, we receive compassion from others. Being kind and compassionate is loving others and putting into practice what God teaches us to do.)
- How does it make you feel when someone understands and thinks about your interests and how you feel, when they show you compassion? (Answers may vary)
- Mention a time this week where someone showed you compassion. (Answers may vary)
- Mention a time this week when you showed compassion to someone else. (Answers may vary)
- The Bible says: "let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." (1 John 3:18) Give some examples of showing compassion the way Jesus would want us to. (Answers may vary. Ex. listening to others, speaking with respect, looking for ways to encourage and help others, etc.)
- Jesus also said: "For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?... And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others?... Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." Matthew 5:46-48
- Should we have compassion for only those whom we like, or those who are nice to us? (no, we should show compassion to everyone, like Jesus did.)
- "And he (Christ) died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them." 2 Corinthians 5:14b-15
- How can we live for Christ? (Thank Him for His forgiveness and salvation, have compassion, show true love, etc. NOTE: explain to them that we should not do things that are wrong just to please someone else.)



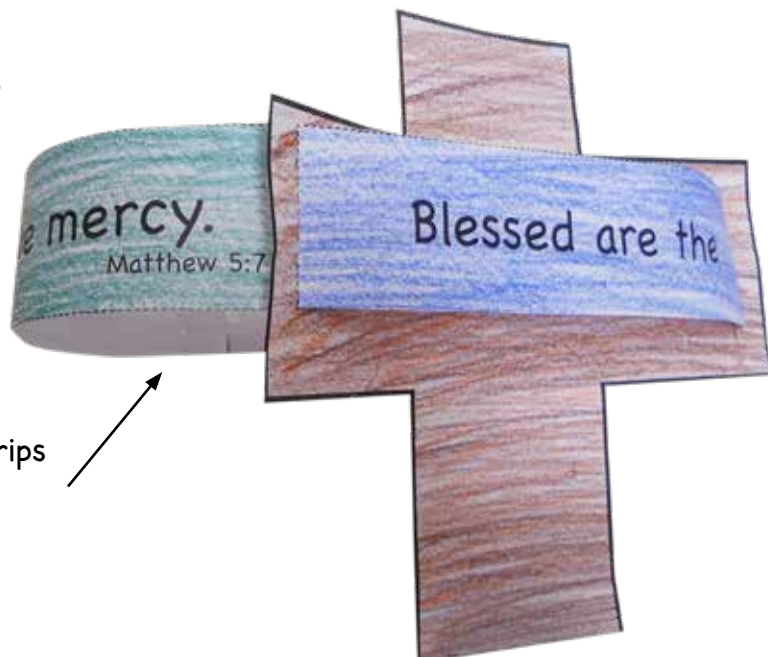
## Craft!



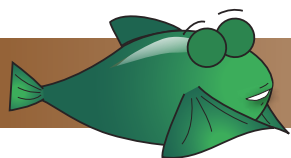
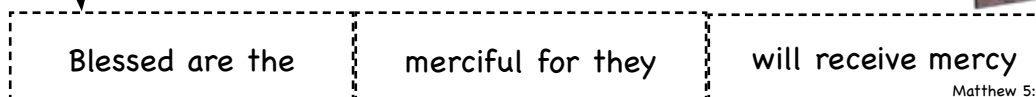
- ➔ To apply what was learned in this lesson, do the following craft with the students.  
Use pages C7 of the student booklet.

Instruct the students to:

1. Color and cut out the cross on page 1. Cut on the dotted lines to create a small opening at each end of the cross.
2. Color and cut out the three strips on page 2.
3. Glue the strips together in the correct order of the verse and thread it through the slits on the cross.



4. Join the two ends of the strips so that it forms a loop.



## Closing and Prayer!



To close, read the following lesson review and pray with the children:

"Jesus demonstrated the greatest love in giving His own life for us. We should also show true love to everyone, and not just to the people that we get along with. God had compassion on us in saving us even though we didn't deserve it. We should have compassion on everyone, and thus live for Christ."

Pray, thanking Jesus for saving us and making it possible for us to have true love and compassion, asking God to help us show this true love. "We love you God!"