WEEK 4
BE KIND AND COMPASSIONATE TO ONE ANOTHER



PRIMARY SCRIPTURES

Ephesians 4:31–32; Luke 10:25–37

BIG TRUTH

Grace forms people whose hearts are moved by suffering and whose hands act for another's good.

PREPARE: READ AND OBSERVE

Read Ephesians 4:31–32 and Luke 10:25–37. Circle repeated words, underline commands, and note what the passages reveal about God, people, and relationships.

My first observations or questions:

KNOW: UNDERSTAND THE TRUTH

As you study these passages, consider how God's kindness and compassion toward us shape the way we treat others. Pay attention to how genuine compassion moves beyond what we feel to how we respond to people in need.

Kindness Replaces the Old Way
Paul contrasts bitterness, rage, shouting, and malice with kindness and compassion. Gospel change is not only stopping destructive behavior; it is putting on a new way of relating.

Compassion Moves Toward Pain
The Samaritan sees the wounded man, is moved with compassion, and draws near. Compassion notices suffering without first asking whether the person deserves care.

Kindness Becomes Concrete
The Samaritan gives time, touch, transportation, money, and follow-through. Biblical kindness is not mere niceness. It acts wisely and sacrificially to bring good and relief.

Doctrine: What We Believe
God's kindness leads us to repentance, and Christ saves us according to His mercy (Romans 2:4; Titus 3:4–7). Christian compassion flows from received mercy. Every neighbor bears God's image, and every believer is called to imitate the Father's kindness.

Supplemental Passages: Micah 6:8 • Matthew 9:35–38 • Romans 2:4 • Colossians 3:12–14 • Titus 3:3–7

KNOW QUESTIONS

1. What attitudes must be put away in Ephesians 4:31? What replaces them?

2. Trace each action the Samaritan takes in Luke 10. What do his actions reveal about compassion?

3. How does Jesus redefine the question, "*Who is my neighbor?*"

FOLLOW: PRACTICE THE WAY OF JESUS

Move from what the text means to what faithful obedience looks like in your actual relationships. Choose at least two questions to answer fully before the group meets.

1. What usually interrupts your compassion—hurry, fear, judgment, inconvenience, or fatigue?

2. Think about a conversation where you spoke the truth but struggled to communicate with kindness or compassion. How could you have approached that conversation differently?

3. Who is suffering near you that you may have learned not to see?

4. How can you show practical compassion to someone while exercising wisdom and maintaining healthy boundaries?

FOLLOW: PRACTICE THE WAY OF JESUS

This Week's Practice
Perform one quiet act of kindness that costs you time, attention, or resources. Do not publicize it. Let it become worship.

My specific person, action, and time:

REFLECT: ATTEND TO THE HEART

Take time to examine your heart in light of what you've learned. Consider what the Holy Spirit is revealing about your attitudes, fears, and relationships as He forms you to reflect Christ.

1. When has another person's kindness made God's care tangible to you?

2. Do people experience your presence as safe and tenderhearted? Why or why not?

3. Where might God be inviting you to move toward pain rather than around it?

RESPOND AND PRAY

Merciful God, give me eyes to see pain, a heart that is moved, and hands ready to serve.

One truth I want to remember:

One step I will practice:

People and needs we will pray for: