

BIG IDEA

True compassion moves you to action.

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

Share about a time when you witnessed extraordinary compassion. What stands out to you about this experience?

Read Exodus 34:6. Based on this passage, how would you define the word *compassion*?

Read Acts 3:1-10 a few times silently to yourself. Where would you come across someone like the lame man at the Beautiful Gate? How would people typically respond to him? Can you tell this story as if it were happening today in your community?
Encourage your life group to share the scenarios they imagine. This kind of activity helps people to see the relevance of Scripture and its application to our lives today.

Re-read Acts 3:4. What is significant about the fact that Peter and John looked at the man?

How did Peter and John offer the man dignity, healing, and hope?
Peter and John looked directly at the man-- and touched him in the act of healing him. Not only that, Luke tells us that the man went with them into the temple courts. All of these details show us that Peter and John did more than have compassion for the man. They engaged him at a relational level and enabled him to move beyond the place of brokenness where he had long been stuck.

WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

How have you personally experienced the compassion of God?

What keeps you from seeing the deeper needs of people in your life?

Where in your life are you in need of dignity, healing, or hope?

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

How did God speak to you specifically during the weekend service? How are you going to respond?





LIFE GROUPS

LEADER GUIDE

Reflect on Exodus 34:6 one more time. Would the people closest to you use these same words to describe you? Why or why not?

The people we spend the most time with are in the best position to help us see our true selves, so encourage your group members to take this question home to their friends and family this week. It is one thing to say that we have compassion. It is another thing to live in such a way that people would describe us as gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in love.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:19-20. How is God calling you to move from ordinary compassion into extraordinary compassion?

How could your Life Group go beyond your normal schedule to show compassion to your community on a regular basis?

Although we want every life group to get involved with the Fall Compassion project at your campus this year, we hope that you will encourage your life group to go beyond this immediate project. What kind of extraordinary compassion is God calling your group to?

