# Raising Compassionate Children in Christ's Image



A 7-day study empowering parents to nurture Christlike compassion in their children through Scripture and prayer.





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### Introduction

Parenthood is one of the most profound callings in life—a journey filled with joy, challenges, and immense responsibility. In a world often marked by self-centeredness and division, raising children who reflect *Christ's compassion* is vital. Compassion is more than kindness; it is a deep empathy that moves us to action, mirroring Jesus' heart for the lost, the hurting, and the marginalized.

This 7-day Bible study is designed to help parents cultivate this divine trait within their children. By focusing on biblical principles and practical application, we will explore how God's Word models compassion and how parents can embody and teach this virtue day by day.

Throughout this journey, we'll see that compassion flows from a heart connected to God. As parents grow in their own walk with Christ, they become powerful examples for their kids, showing how to love others sacrificially and with grace. This transformation begins with prayer, deliberate teaching, and intentional living.

Whether you are a new parent or have seasoned years in parenting, this study offers encouragement and actionable insights. Embracing God's Word together will empower your family to impact the world around them, reflecting the love and compassion of Jesus in everyday life. Let's begin this exciting adventure of raising compassionate children who will shine Christ's light wherever they go!







# Day 1: W Understanding Compassion through Christ









Day 1: V Understanding Compassion through Christ

### Your Verse

Matthew 9:36 - "When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."
- Colossians 3:12 "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."







Day 1: Vunderstanding Compassion through Christ

### Devotional: Embracing Jesus' Heart for Compassion

Compassion is at the heart of Jesus' ministry. In Matthew 9:36, we see Jesus deeply moved by the people's suffering. He didn't just pity them; His compassion motivated Him to act. As parents, our goal is not only to teach our children about compassion but to live it in ways that resonate deeply.

Compassion requires understanding and empathy. It means recognizing the pain and struggles of others without judgment. When we teach our kids this, we help them see beyond themselves and connect with others' needs.

**Modeling Christ's compassion is foundational.** Children absorb much from our actions—more than our words alone. When they witness us forgiving, showing kindness, and patiently helping those in need, these examples become embedded in their character.

Let us begin by praying for softened hearts and open eyes to notice the needs around us. Compassion is a skill and a fruit of the Spirit that can be nurtured with intentionality.







Day 1: 💔 Understanding Compassion through Christ

# Reflect and Apply

1.	How have I personally experienced Christ's compassion in my own life?
2.	In what ways does my behavior model compassion for my children daily?
	What barriers might prevent my child from developing true empathy, and how can I address them?







Day 1: 💔 Understanding Compassion through Christ

### **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a moment when you saw pure compassion in your child's behavior.
2.	List three practical ways your family can show compassion this week.
3.	Reflect on personal habits that may need change to better model Christlike compassion.







Day 1: W Understanding Compassion through Christ

### Prayer for Today

**Father,** thank You for showing us what true compassion looks like through Jesus. Help me to cultivate a compassionate heart for my children that mirrors Your love for all people. Teach us to see others as You see them, to be moved with empathy, and to act kindly and patiently. May our home be a place where Your compassion is both learned and lived out every day. Strengthen me to lead by example so my children can grow to love as You do. In Jesus' name, *Amen.*

















#### Your Verse

Luke 10:33–34 – "But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine."

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Proverbs 21:13 "Whoever shuts their ears to the cry of the poor will also cry out and not be answered."
- Galatians 6:2 "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."







### Devotional: Seeing and Responding to Needs

**The Parable of the Good Samaritan** teaches us about recognizing and responding to the needs of others around us. Compassion moves beyond emotions—it leads to tangible care.

As parents, guiding children to notice when others are hurting and encouraging them to respond is key. It could be as simple as comforting a friend, sharing belongings, or standing up for someone treated unfairly.

**Teaching empathy begins with awareness.** Children naturally observe how we respond when we encounter someone in need. When we slow down to truly listen and notice, we create opportunities for growth in empathy.

Encourage your children to ask questions like, "How is this person feeling?" or "What can I do to help?" This active engagement nurtures compassion that results in practical action and kindness.







# Reflect and Apply

1.	How often do I and my children notice others in need around us?
2.	What are some ways we can develop a habit of responding, not ignoring?
	In what ways can I teach my children to have practical compassion in daily life?







### **Journaling Prompts**

Describe a recent situation your family helped someone in need, big or small.
List barriers your child may face when trying to show compassion and how to overcome them.
Reflect on how Jesus' example challenges your family's responses to others.







### Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, open our eyes and hearts to see the needs of those around us. Help us not to look away but to respond with love and mercy just as You did. Teach my children to be quick to help, patient to listen, and brave to care. May our family be known for active compassion that reflects Your grace every day. Strengthen us to carry each other's burdens and live Your law of love. Amen.























Day 3: 7 Cultivating a Compassionate Heart

#### Your Verse

Psalm 103:13 – "As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him."

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- James 2:15–16 "Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?"
- 1 John 3:17 "If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?"







Day 3: Cultivating a Compassionate Heart

### Devotional: God's Compassion as Our Parenting Model

God's compassion toward us is the ultimate model for how we should treat others, especially our children. Psalm 103 compares a father's compassionate heart for his children to God's mercy for His people. As parents, we have a unique role in reflecting God's compassion in the home.

Cultivating compassion requires nurturing through teaching and example. Simply telling children to be kind is not enough. We need to help them understand the honor and joy in serving others as an expression of God's love.

In James and 1 John, the Scriptures challenge us to move from empty words to meaningful action. Compassion is not passive; it involves caring physically and emotionally. Teaching our kids about generosity, selflessness, and care helps form a compassionate heart.

Consider ways to involve children in acts of service or charity, fostering empathy by meeting real needs. This transforms abstract ideas into lived reality, making compassion an integral part of their character.







Day 3: 🍞 Cultivating a Compassionate Heart

# Reflect and Apply

1.	How well does my parenting reflect God's compassionate nature?
-	
	What practical ways can I nurture compassion consistently in my children?
-	
	Are there habits or attitudes in my family that hinder compassionate growth?
-	







Day 3: 🍞 Cultivating a Compassionate Heart

### **Journaling Prompts**

	Write about a time you experienced God's compassion deeply in your parenting.
2.	List ways your family can serve others regularly to develop empathy.
3.	Reflect on the balance between teaching and modeling compassion.







Day 3: 🍞 Cultivating a Compassionate Heart

### Prayer for Today

**Father God,** thank You for Your unfailing compassion toward us—a perfect example to follow. Help me to lead my children by Your Spirit, showing them what it means to care deeply and act kindly. Teach me to nurture their hearts, helping them put love into action. May our family be a living reflection of Your mercy and grace. Strengthen us to serve others joyfully. In Jesus' name, *Amen.*







# Day 4: Teaching Forgiveness with Compassion









Day 4: 🍑 Teaching Forgiveness with Compassion

#### Your Verse

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

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Matthew 18:21–22 "Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."
- Colossians 3:13 "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."







Day 4: Ծ Teaching Forgiveness with Compassion

# Devotional: Forgiveness as an Expression of Compassion

Compassion and forgiveness are inseparable. In Ephesians 4:32, Paul reminds us that kindness and compassion should overflow into forgiveness, just as Christ forgave us fully and freely.

Teaching children to forgive is challenging but essential. Forgiveness opens the door to healing broken relationships and frees hearts from bitterness. It is a powerful way to demonstrate God's love at work within us.

Parents can guide children through forgiveness by sharing biblical stories and personal examples. Encourage them to express their feelings honestly, pray for those who hurt them, and release grudges with God's help.

Remember, forgiveness doesn't mean ignoring wrongdoing but choosing grace over resentment. It reflects the heart of Christ in everyday conflicts and disappointments.







Day 4: 💙 Teaching Forgiveness with Compassion

# Reflect and Apply

1.	How do I personally handle forgiveness in relationships, especially with my children?
2.	What obstacles might my kids face in learning forgiveness, and how can I help?
3.	How can I create a family culture that values mercy and reconciliation?





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Day 4: 🍑 Teaching Forgiveness with Compassion

### **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a situation where forgiveness brought healing in your family.
2.	List practical steps you can teach your children to forgive others.
3.	Reflect on how your forgiveness impacts your child's view of God's love.







Day 4: 🎔 Teaching Forgiveness with Compassion

### Prayer for Today

**Lord Jesus,** thank You for forgiving us completely and teaching us to forgive others. Please fill my heart and my children's hearts with compassion that embraces forgiveness. Help us release hurt, show kindness even in conflict, and mirror Your grace in our family relationships. May forgiveness be a hallmark of our home, bringing peace and unity. *Amen.*  $\heartsuit$   $\clubsuit$   $\updownarrow$ 















### Your Verse

Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Luke 7:13 "When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, 'Don't cry."
- Hebrews 4:15 "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin."







### Devotional: Building Empathy by Sharing Stories

**Empathy is the ability to share and understand others' feelings.** Romans 12:15 tells us to rejoice and mourn alongside one another, placing ourselves in others' shoes. Teaching empathy is crucial for compassionate children.

One excellent way to nurture empathy is through storytelling. Biblical stories of Jesus' compassion or modern testimonies demonstrate real emotions and struggles, helping children connect deeply.

Share stories of kindness, trials, and redemption with your children regularly. Ask questions like, "How do you think they felt?" or "What would you do in that situation?" This invites reflection and builds emotional sensitivity.

Children also grow empathy by observing their parents' emotional responses. When they see us care genuinely and respond with grace, it shapes their understanding of caring relationships.







# Reflect and Apply

1.	How often do I share stories that highlight empathy and compassion with my children?
2.	What questions or conversations help my children connect emotionally to others' experiences?
3.	How do I express empathy in front of my family?







### **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write a story about a time someone showed empathy to you or your child.
2.	List Biblical stories that teach compassion you can share with your kids.
	Reflect on ways you personally express empathy and how to model it better.







### Prayer for Today

God of Understanding, thank You for the gift of empathy and for Jesus who perfectly empathizes with us. Help me to teach my children to embrace others' feelings with kindness and care. Guide me in sharing stories that inspire compassion and open hearts. May we learn to walk alongside those who rejoice and those who mourn, reflecting Your tender love. *Amen.* 









# Day 6: Representation Practicing Compassion in Everyday Life









Day 6: X Practicing Compassion in Everyday Life

### Your Verse

Micah 6:8 - "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- James 1:27 "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."
- Matthew 25:40 "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."







Day 6: 🗱 Practicing Compassion in Everyday Life

# Devotional: Living Compassion Through Daily Actions

Micah 6:8 beautifully summarizes God's call: to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly. Compassion isn't limited to grand gestures; it thrives in everyday acts of kindness and justice.

As parents, we can teach our children to look for ways to serve those around them—be it family, neighbors, or strangers in need. James reminds us that pure faith expresses itself in caring for the vulnerable around us, while Jesus teaches that such acts honor Him directly.

**Encourage your children to practice compassion through small, consistent actions.** Listen when someone needs a friend, share toys, help with chores, or include others in play. These daily habits build a compassionate lifestyle rooted in humility and mercy.

By living out these truths, we teach children to love God by loving others.







Day 6: 🎇 Practicing Compassion in Everyday Life

### Reflect and Apply

What routine acts of compassion can our family incorporate regularly?
How do we balance humility with standing up for justice and mercy?
In what ways can small daily actions reflect God's love more clearly?







Day 6: 🗱 Practicing Compassion in Everyday Life

### **Journaling Prompts**

1.	List five simple acts of compassion your family can do this week.
2.	Reflect on how humility plays a role in your family's compassion.
3.	Write about a time a small act of kindness made a big difference.







Day 6: X Practicing Compassion in Everyday Life

### Prayer for Today

**Lord,** teach us to live compassion daily—through justice, mercy, and humble hearts. Help me guide my children to act kindly and serve willingly, knowing that in so doing we honor You. May our family be a beacon of Your love in every interaction, big or small. Strengthen our resolve to love others as You command. *Amen.* \*















#### Your Verse

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- John 13:34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."
- Philippians 2:4 "Not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."







### Devotional: Parenting with Christlike Compassion

As parents, experiencing God's comfort and compassion enables us to pass it on to our children. Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians that God comforts us so we may comfort others. Our parenting journey is full of challenges, but it is also a divine opportunity to reflect Jesus' love.

Reflecting Christ's compassion means prioritizing our children's needs and showing unconditional love. John's command to love as Jesus loves is revolutionary—calling us to be patient, forgiving, and selfless in daily family life.

Philippians encourages us to look beyond ourselves to serve family members sacrificially. When our children see this lived out, they begin to embody it in their own relationships.

Today, pray for strength and wisdom to parent with compassion, remembering that you are first comforted by God's grace. Your loving example shapes their hearts more than words ever can.





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Day 7: Reflecting Christ's Compassion in Parenting

# Reflect and Apply

1.	How does God's comfort empower me to be a more compassionate parent?
	In what ways can I better reflect Jesus' unconditional love in my parenting?
3.	How can I model selflessness and genuine care for my family daily?







### **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a moment when you felt God's compassion in your parenting challenges.
2.	List how reflecting Christ's love changes your family dynamics.
3.	Plan one intentional way to show selfless love to your children this week.







### Prayer for Today

**Father of compassion,** thank You for comforting and loving me so I can extend that love to my children. Give me wisdom and strength to parent with grace, patience, and selflessness. Help me to embody Jesus' love in every interaction and to nurture compassionate hearts in my family. May my home reflect Your divine kindness and mercy. *Amen.* 







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