

Compassion is caring enough to do something about someone else's need.

DAY 1

Read Galatians 6:2

Have you ever had to carry something really heavy? Like a stuffed full backpack of books? What's easier, carrying that load by yourself or sharing the load with someone else?

How can we "carry one another's loads?" It depends on the situation. If a friend is sad, carrying their load might look like sitting beside them and offering to listen. If a friend makes a mess, carrying their load" might mean picking up a broom to get busy with the clean-up. There are lots of ways you can use what you have to help others by "carrying their loads" to show compassion.

Wagon Awhile

Do you have a wagon? Ask a friend or sibling to head outside and take turns pulling each other in the wagon. As you do, repeat today's verse together until you can say it from memory. Remember to show compassion this week as you use what you have to help others.

DAY 2

Read Acts 20:35

In our verse today, the writer, Paul, writes about showing care and compassion for others. Paul wasn't rich or a powerful leader with lots of influence. Still, Paul chose to use what he had to help others. As followers of Jesus, we are to do the same thing. Why? Because Jesus said that giving is better than getting. Sharing is better than consuming or taking.

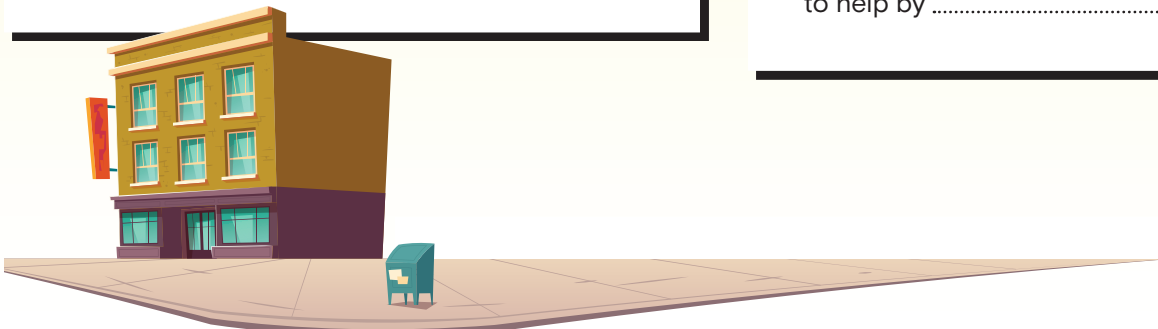
What Can You Give?

You can use your stuff, your time, and your talents to help! In the space below, write down one way you could use each of these things to help someone else.

STUFF: I can use my to help by

TIME: I can use my to help by

TALENTS: I can use my ability to to help by



Read Romans 12:13

In our Bible story this week, Jesus asked His disciples to find food to feed the crowd of over 5,000 that had gathered to hear Him teach. But the disciples were confused. Where would they find the money to pay for all that food? Where would they find anyone who could sell them that much food?

You might feel like those disciples sometimes. Maybe you see a need that seems too big or too complicated. It might seem like something a grown up should handle. But everyone can do something. You can use what you have, no matter how small, to help. And when you do, God can take that gift and do something bigger and better than you ever imagined.

Write today's verse on a card and set it on the kitchen table. The next time you sit down for a family meal, read the verse and ask your family the following questions:

1. What is one thing we could do as a family to help in our community?
2. What is something each of us could do this week to help and show compassion?

Read Matthew 5:42

Has anyone asked to borrow something lately?

Did you say "yes" and hand it over? If you did, how did it make you feel to help someone else?

If you said, "no," was it because you were worried about what would happen? Were you afraid they'd lose it, or break it, or just refuse to give it back?

Even if the worst were to happen, choosing to help is always the wise choice. Especially if it's helping out someone who really needs it. **Compassion means caring enough to do something about someone else's need.** Sometimes the smallest thing—like letting someone borrow something—can make the biggest difference.

As you pray today, open up your hands in front of you and ask God to help you be generous and give to those around you. **Ask God to help you not hold tightly to anything with a "that's mine" attitude but to show compassion, to be generous and willing to share.**

Use what you have
to help others.

