

Topic: Proper Humanity – Compassionate (Lesson 119)

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

Elementary:

Verse: “...God [is] compassionate and gracious...” (Exodus 34:6b).

Focus: To be compassionate is to understand how another person feels and to show concern for that person. God is compassionate toward us in His love and we need to have compassion on others.

Practical Application: If you see your friend fall on the playground and get hurt, what will you do? Would you be concerned for him? Will you help him get up? Will you see what you can do to help him? Will you care for him?

Intermediate:

Verse: “Therefore all that you wish men would do to you, so also you do to them; ...” (Matthew 7:12a).

Focus: To be compassionate is to understand how another person feels and to show concern for that person. We should be compassionate toward others when they are suffering by showing sympathy for them.

Practical Application: Consider asking the children how many of them have experienced feeling ill. Ask them how they felt, and whether or not they needed some help. Point out how comforting it is to have someone realize that we are not feeling well and to offer to help us feel better by cooking something for us, or getting us the medicine we need. When we see someone sick, weak, or in need of help, we should be able to put ourselves in their shoes. We should not ignore them; rather, we should show compassion toward them.

Advanced:

Verse: “And seeing the crowds, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were harassed and cast away like sheep not having a shepherd” (Matthew 9:36).

Focus: To be compassionate is to understand how another person feels and to show concern for that person. We can show concern through our thoughts, words, actions, and prayers. We should show compassion without being asked to do so.

Practical Application: Consider telling the story of the Lord’s compassion, for example, in Luke 7 with the widow and her son. See footnote 1 on Luke 7:13. Another example is the Lord’s healing of the leper in Matthew 8. See footnote 1 of Matthew 8:3. The Lord Jesus showed compassion to all men, oftentimes without being asked. In like manner, we should have compassion for all human beings.