**The Big Idea!**

**As a follower of Jesus, I must live out compassion by responding to the suffering around me with the same love Christ showed on the cross.**

1. **The Character of Compassion**

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." –Colossians 3:12 (NIV)

1. **The Compassion of Christ**

"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." – Matthew 9:36 (ESV)

1. **Channels of Compassion**

"If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, be warmed and filled,’ without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." – James 2:15-17 (ESV)

1. **Compassion and the Cross**

"In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." – 1 John 4:9-11 (ESV)

## **What does the cross mean for us today?**

* It’s a reminder of just how deep God’s compassion for us really is.
* The cross challenges us to show that same kind of selfless compassion to other people.
* The cross connects us to each other through compassion.

**Questions about today’s message or about salvation? Contact Pastor Mike at Pastor@RedemptionRock.net or on his cell phone at 774-209-0182.**

Join us again next Sunday as we continue the series called “**My Pledge to God!**” with the next message called “**I Am Forgiving!”**