

COMPASSION SUNDAY



Compassion Sunday

April 16, 2017

ICEBREAKER: Share a time when you came into contact with severe poverty.

MAIN POINT:

**God's heart is for His children
To have a big heart for poor children**

EXPLORATION:

- 1. Read Deuteronomy 15: 7-11, Hebrews 13:16. What do these verses suggest that God would have believers to do for the poor?**
(Context Clues-The passages obviously say that to be obedient is to give to those less fortunate than you. But take the time to focus on the attitude that we should have as illustrated in the Deuteronomy passage.)
- 2. Read Deut 15:10, Psalms 41:1, Prov 19:7, Prov 22:9, Isaiah 58:10, and Luke 6:38. What is the common theme of this group of verses?**
(Context Clues- Each of these verses says that there will be a blessing for those who are generous and who are generous to the poor. Brainstorm the ways that a person may receive for being generous beyond materially: socially, spiritually, emotionally, intellectually, and relationally. Discuss how receiving should not be a motive for giving. But receiving is a biblical result of giving. This result is not why we should give; it is really why we can give!)

- 3. Read Psalm 78: 2-7 and Matthew 18: 1-6. What is the heart of our Lord for the next generation? What is the added benefit of giving materially and spiritually to the needy of the next generation?**

(Context Clues- When we are generous to the next generation with both the gospel and our finances, we have the ability to change the future of a child, a family, a community, a country, or the world.)

- 4. How do all of these verses illustrate the main point of this Bible study? “God’s heart is for His children to have a big heart for poor children”. How do these truths apply to your life?**

APPLICATION:

- 1. Share about a time when someone else meeting a need in your life made a big difference for you.**
- 2. Have members of your group who sponsor Compassion children (or similar organizations) share about their experience.**
- 3. Discuss and consider the option of sponsoring a Compassion Child as a small group.**
- 4. Pray for Compassion International. Pray for sponsors, children, families, and churches involved with Compassion to be able to change the world one child at a time.**