

Materials I Need:

Legend:

= Option 1, Appropriate for 1st – 2nd Grade= Option 2, Appropriate for 3rd – 6th Grade

Memory Work:

“When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them and healed their sick.”
Matthew 14:14 (NIV)

Suggested Thematic Tracks:

① Follow the Leader

HOOK: Training Others to Follow (*Activity*)
Let’s Look at Our Leaders (*Activity/Discussion*)

LOOK: Matthew Memory Verse Review (*Worksheet*)
Follow the Leader (*Review Game*)

TOOK: Submit, Commit, and Follow Christ (*Daily Devotional*)
I Will Follow Jesus (*Craft*)

② Compassion Of Christ

HOOK: Have Some Compassion (*Activity*)
LOOK: The Components of Christ’s Compassion (*Puzzle/Craft*)
Compassion Pictionary (*Game*)

A Compassionate Heart (*Pocket Craft*)
Basket of Fish (*Snack*)
TOOK: Providing for Others’ Needs (*Discussion*)
Having Christ-Like Compassion For... (*Word Search*)
C O M P A S S I O N (*Activity*)

➤ Complementary Activities



Hook:



① **Training Others to Follow (*Activity*).** Set up several stations and have a “leader”

teacher train a few students at the table to perform some kind of action. This action might be the assembly of a simple toy, shoe-tying lessons, or how to complete a picture by using certain colors or shapes. Once the first set of students has been “trained,” allow them to instruct another set of students on how to complete these same tasks. The abilities of the first leader will be realized in how well he or she trained the first group. Talk with the students about following instructions from the “leader” and what kind of a leader would be easier to follow. In this morning’s lesson, Christ continues to train His disciples to lead the flock. He begins to prepare them for His departure. The miracles Jesus performs to feed the multitudes were mostly for the benefit of His disciples. He also came to them on the water amidst the storm to encourage their faith.



① **Let's Look at Our Leaders (Activity/Discussion).** 🦁, 🦋 Bring in pictures and talk about

different leaders and what jobs they perform. Cover the following points with the students and generate a discussion that leads into listing the qualities of a “good leader.”

- A leader is someone who has “authority” over others.
- Leaders train others to follow their instructions and do what they are told to do.
- We come in contact with different leaders every day. See how many leaders the students can name. Here are some suggestions to get you started: President, parents, teachers, army general, fire chief, grandparents, baby-sitters, school principal, police officer, etc. Some of these leaders have leaders who are in authority over them.
- There is one authority who is over everyone—God.
- Compare and contrast qualities such as kind/harsh, unselfish/selfish, egocentric/humble, compassionate/uncaring.
- Ask the students what kinds of leaders they want to follow.



② **Have Some Compassion (Activity).** 🦁 Everyone can understand the feeling of “compassion”

when they see an injured animal or child. When someone or something more helpless than ourselves needs help, we feel sorry for them. That feeling of sympathy can be a strong emotion. When we feel that way, we call it “compassion.” Bring in stuffed animals or a real puppy or kitten. Talk about or allow the students to pretend that the animals are sick or injured. If you are using stuffed animals, let the students bandage, comfort, and care for these animals as you talk to them about why they feel sorry for them. Tell the students that, in this morning’s Bible Adventure, they will learn how Christ had “compassion” on His followers and met their needs, even when He was sad.



Book:

Presentation Ideas –



Jesus Feeds the 5,000 (Illustration/Coloring Page). 🦁, 🦋 Matthew 14:18-21, **MAT08.GF1.**



Jesus Walks on the Water (Illustration/Coloring Page). 🦁, 🦋 Matthew 14:25, **MAT08.GF2.**



Peter Attempts to Walk on the Water (Illustration/Coloring Page). 🦁, 🦋 Matthew 14:28-31, **MAT08.GF3.**



The Faith of the Canaanite Woman (Illustration/Coloring Page). 🦁, 🦋 Matthew 15:21-28, **MAT08.GF4.**

Bible Adventure for 1st – 6th Grades -

Throughout our study of Matthew, we have seen Jesus perform many miracles. Remember, a miracle is a special act of God that is out of the ordinary and can only be explained by God’s stepping in and making it happen. The miracles of Jesus demonstrate that He is God’s Son, the promised Messiah. He was sent by God and has authority over all creation and the power to forgive sin. However, unlike earthly rulers, Jesus never uses His power and authority with cruelty or for selfish gain. He is the Good Shepherd, the One who came, not to be served, but to serve. He is full of compassion and love, as we will see in Matthew chapters 14 and 15.

Matthew chapter 14 opens with the murder of John the Baptist. Jesus had loved him and we can only imagine His grief and sadness over his death. Jesus sought to be alone to find a quiet place to pray and mourn for His loved one. But He did not find quiet. Instead, He found multitudes of people following Him, wanting Him to heal their sick and meet their needs. Think about it. Here was our Lord, deeply saddened and wanting to find time alone. People clamored after Him with all sorts of needs. What was His response? Did He try to run and hide and escape them? Indeed not. Matthew 14:14 says, “When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them and healed their sick.” What a beautiful response! Later, He miraculously fed this great crowd (probably close to 20,000 people, counting women and children) with just a boy’s lunch consisting of five small loaves of bread and two fish.

After this great demonstration of Jesus’ power and compassion, He sent His disciples on a boat across the Sea of Galilee. He then went alone to pray up on the mountain. By nightfall, a great storm had blown

in on the sea. The winds grew fierce and the waves tossed the disciples in the boat. Needless to say, they were terrified and afraid for their lives. In the wee hours of the morning, Jesus came to them in their boat, walking on the water. He saw their fear and declared, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid" (Matt. 14:27). In the midst of their fear, during the middle of the night, on a raging sea, Jesus had compassion on His disciples and sought to comfort them. This is the heart of our Lord. Peter, in a moment of faith and boldness, asked if he could walk to Jesus on the water. At Jesus' invitation, he hopped over the side of the boat and began walking, but his moment of faith and boldness faded as he took his eyes off Jesus and became distracted by the crashing waves around him. He began to sink, and at Peter's cry for help, Jesus immediately rescued him, further demonstrating His heart of compassion for His own.

When the storm had passed and they finally came to shore, they entered the city of Gennesaret. There, people recognized Jesus and brought their sick loved ones to Him, begging that they be allowed to touch the hem of His coat. Matthew 14:36 says, "All who touched Him were healed." Jesus had complete authority over their sickness and healed their physical needs. Unfortunately, most did not recognize that their greatest need was spiritual—the forgiveness of their sins.

The Pharisees were keeping a close eye on Jesus and were deeply concerned that His authority would undermine their own. They did not care that Jesus was the compassionate Messiah, sent by God to take away the terrible burden of sin. They were completely caught up in their own importance and earthly traditions. They accused Jesus and His disciples of violating their "all-important" traditions by not properly washing their hands before they ate. However, Jesus quickly rebuked them by stating that it is not what a person puts into his mouth that makes him unclean, but rather, it is the words that come out of his mouth that make him unclean. What a person says is a clear indicator of the sin that is in his or her heart.

From Gennesaret, Jesus traveled to another region and encountered a Gentile woman who had tremendous faith in Him. She pleaded with Jesus to heal her daughter, which He did, blessing her because of her unwavering faith. Afterwards, Jesus continued around the Sea of Galilee, and then went up on a mountain, followed by a multitude seeking His compassionate power. He healed them of all kinds of infirmities and the Bible says they all glorified God. As the multitude grew, Jesus again miraculously provided food for all with just seven loaves of bread and a few small fish.

Throughout Matthew chapters 14 and 15, Jesus continually provided for the needs of His people, responding quickly and abundantly to their cries for help. He demonstrated that He definitely is the Good Shepherd, endlessly compassionate in His authority over all creation. What is your response to Jesus? Will you submit to His authority or will you try to take charge of your own life? Will you trust in His compassion and goodness when you have a need and are tempted to give in to worry and fear? Put your life into His hands and know that He has the power and the compassion to care for you because you are His precious lamb.

Aim Questions

1. **How did Jesus show compassion for those around Him?** *(He met their needs and loved them.)*
2. **Can you trust Him when you have needs, both great and small?** *(Yes, of course!)*
3. **How did Jesus demonstrate His authority over the physical elements?** *(He multiplied food, calmed the storm, and healed the physical bodies of those who were sick.)*
4. **How would you define the word "compassion"?** *(Having a heart of love that desires to meet others' needs.)*
5. **Can you think of anyone who might have some needs that you could meet like Jesus did?**
6. **What does His compassion tell us about whether or not we can be saved?** *(Because He is compassionate toward us, we can trust Him as our Savior.)*




Look:




① **Matthew Memory Verse Review (Worksheet).** 🐛, 🦋 Discuss with the students how they have seen many instances of Christ's leadership and compassion since the study of Matthew began. Give the students **MAT08.GF5** and see how many of the words they can fill in from the memory verses they have studied so far.


 ① **Follow the Leader (Review Game).** 🦋, 🦋 Allow the students to take turns being the leader and describe an event from today's Bible Adventure. As they call out the event, have the other students act out what is happening.

 ② **The Components of Christ's Compassion (Puzzle/Craft).** 🦋, 🦋 Each student will need:
MAT08.GF6 copied onto white cardstock
scissors
markers or crayons
1 sheet of construction paper

Have the teachers/helpers lead table groups in a discussion to determine the qualities of a compassionate leader. A good way to start would be to look up Galatians 5:22 and Matthew 5:3-10. Next, have the students follow the directions below to complete their craft:

1. Use **MAT08.GF6** and draw lines dividing the heart into puzzle sections.
2. Write qualities of a compassionate leader inside these sections.
3. Color each section a different color and cut apart.
4. Reassemble the puzzle-heart, and trade with a friend to work his or her puzzle.
5. To make this into a take-home design, use double-sided tape and tape the pieces to a sheet of construction paper, leaving a little space between each piece. Write at the bottom of the page, "The Components of Christ's Compassion."


 ② **Compassion Pictionary (Game).** 🦋 Prior to class, write on individual pieces of paper examples of times when Christ showed compassion to someone (be sure to include the instances from today's lesson). Divide the students into teams and have one person draw a picture of the example written on the paper while the others guess. Then take turns letting someone else draw while the remaining students guess. Some suggestions to get you started are: Jesus feeds 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish, Jesus walks on water to His disciples, Jesus heals the Gentile woman's daughter, Jesus heals the man with leprosy, Jesus heals the Centurion's servant, Jesus heals the paralytic, Jesus saves the criminal on the cross next to Him at the crucifixion, Jesus dies on the cross for all of our sins.


 ② **A Compassionate Heart (Craft/Discussion).** Each student will need:
2 small paper plates per student
stapler or colored yarn and embroidery needle
label from **MAT08.GF7**
crayons
scissors


Have the students follow the directions below to complete their craft:

1. With the two plates stacked together, cut in a heart shape.
2. Turn these now so that they face each other and make a "pocket."
3. Staple, or sew together with yarn.
4. Color or decorate.
5. Paste the label on the front of the pocket.

Look up the verses where Christ has shown compassion (see list of suggested events under **Compassion Pictionary Game**), and review the event that took place. See if the students can tell you the qualities found in Christ's heart that they would want to have in their own heart. Suggestions for these qualities might be: helpfulness, thinking of others first, good attitude, patience with others (even when tired), good listener, esteeming or edifying others, forgiving others, sympathy for others, etc.

 ② **Basket of Fish (Snack).** 🦋, 🦋 Bring in baskets of rolls with small plastic fish for decoration or baskets of fish crackers.

 ➤ **Aim Questions (Worksheet).** 🦋 Have the students answer the Aim Questions about today's Bible Adventure, **MAT08.GF8**.

 ➤ **Passage Review Questions (Worksheet).** 🦋, 🦋 This booklet contains many questions from the Scripture passage covered in today's lesson. Students may work on them in class and complete them during the week at home, **MAT08.GF9**.



➤ **Matthew 14:14 (Memory Verse Song).** 🍌, 🦋 Words and music for today's memory verse are available upon request from Children's Ministry.



Took:

① **Submit, Commit, and Follow Christ (Daily Devotional).** 🍌, 🦋 Using **MAT08.GF10** as a graphic background, have the students select at least seven Scripture references (one for each day) and copy them down on their own paper. Each student may choose different verses to look up each day. Encourage them to meditate on the selected Scriptures and thank Jesus for His compassion and control over their lives, acknowledge His power and authority over everything in the universe, and submit everything they are and what they do to Him for His glory. Christ is our compassionate authority. If we desire to be His children, we must submit our lives to Him, commit our obedience to Him and follow the direction He lays before us.

Suggested verses from which to choose:

<u>Submit</u>	<u>Commit</u>	<u>Follow</u>
Jn. 3:3-21	Matt. 7:13-29	Jn. 8:12
Jn. 3:36	Matt. 22:37-40	Rom. 5:1-5
Jn. 6:28-29	Jn. 8:31	Rom. 8:14
Jn. 6:33-40	Jn. 10:9-10	Rom. 12:1-2
Jn. 14:6	Jn. 14:15-24	Rom. 12:21
Acts 4:12	2 Cor. 6:17	1 Cor. 7:17-20
Rom. 10:9-11	2 Cor. 13:5-6	1 Cor. 10:31
	Eph. 6:13-18	1 Cor. 15:57-58
	Col. 4:2	Gal. 1:10
		Gal. 5:22-26
		Eph. 4:1-2
		Col. 3:1-4



① **I Will Follow Jesus (Craft).** Each student will need:

MAT08.GF11 copied onto white paper
scissors
crayons or markers

Have the students follow the directions below to complete their craft:

1. Cut out and assemble the foot booklet.
2. Staple at the left edge.
3. Color and decorate each foot as desired.

Work with the students individually and write Christ-like character qualities for them to display to others this coming week. Suggestions: humility, kindness, thoughtfulness, caring, thankfulness, obedience, unselfishness, generosity, etc.



② **Providing for Others' Needs (Discussion).** 🍌, 🦋 Talk with the students about ways they can show Christ-like compassion to those around them this coming week. Christ provided for the needs of others, responding quickly and abundantly to their cries for help. Explain that, as ambassadors for Christ, we can provide His compassion to others by providing help to them when we can. Give the students copies of **MAT08.GF12** to complete and take home to remind them of the ways they might demonstrate this compassion throughout the week. Have them color the pictures and write inside each heart more specific ways to show compassion.



② **Having Christ-Like Compassion For... (Word Search).** 🍌, 🦋 As the students complete this word search, talk with them about ways they can be compassionate toward each of these people listed. Christ-like compassion should be displayed toward all of those people with whom we come in contact daily, **MAT08.GF13**.



② **C O M P A S S I O N (Activity)**. 🦋, 🦋 Have the students write the word COMPASSION vertically on a sheet of paper. Then, with some discussion and thought, have them write the name of someone to whom they will display Christ-like compassion this week next to each letter of COMPASSION. For instance: Cathy, Our next door neighbor, Mom, Pa, Andrew, Sister, Someone at school, In my class, On the playground, Nancy. If they can't think of someone's name, have them write a location or opportunity (such as On the playground, or In my classroom). Have them color the page and paste it to a sheet of construction paper. Take the opportunity next week to follow up with how the students did. You might even make specific notes of who each student targeted so that you may ask specifically how they demonstrated compassion to that specific person.

Jesus Feeds the 5,000



Jesus Walks on the Water



Peter Attempts to Walk on the Water



The Faith of the Canaanite Woman



MATTHEW MEMORY VERSE REVIEW

Fill in the missing blanks.

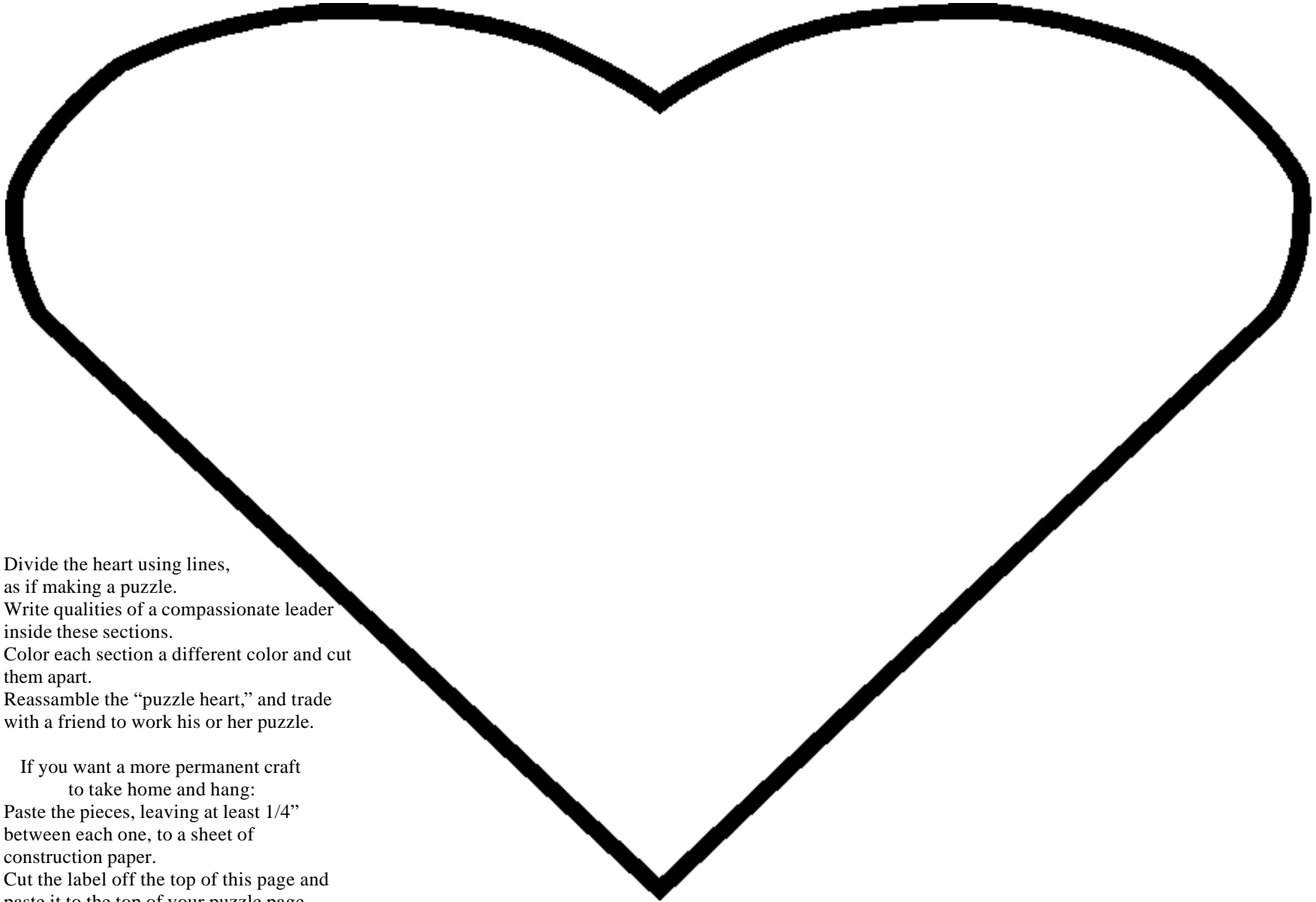
<p>“She will give _____ to a son, and you are to give Him the name _____, because He will save His people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21</p>	<p>WORD LIST</p>
<p>“_____, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” Matthew 4:17b</p>	
<p>“In the same way, let your _____ shine before men, that they may see your good _____ and _____ your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16</p>	<p>authority</p>
<p>“But seek first His _____ and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you.” Matthew 6:33</p>	<p>kingdom</p>
<p>“When the _____ saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such _____ to men.” Matthew 9:8</p>	<p>Jesus</p>
<p>“Come to Me, all you who are _____, and burdened and I will give you _____.” Matthew 11:28</p>	<p>heaven</p>
<p>“He replied, ‘The _____ of the secrets of the kingdom of _____ has been given to you, but not to them.’” Matthew 13:11</p>	<p>rest</p>
<p>“When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had _____ on them and healed their _____.” Matthew 14:14</p>	<p>repent</p>
	<p>crowd</p>

MATTHEW MEMORY VERSE REVIEW KEY

Fill in the missing blanks.

<p>“She will give <u>birth</u> to a son, and you are to give Him the name <u>Jesus</u>, because He will save His people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21</p> <p>“<u>Repent</u>, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” Matthew 4:17b</p> <p>“In the same way, let your <u>light</u> shine before men, that they may see your good <u>deeds</u> and <u>praise</u> your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16</p> <p>“But seek first His <u>kingdom</u> and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you.” Matthew 6:33</p> <p>“When the <u>crowd</u> saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such <u>authority</u> to men.” Matthew 9:8</p> <p>“Come to Me, all you who are <u>weary</u> and burdened, and I will give you <u>rest</u>.” Matthew 11:28</p> <p>“He replied, “The <u>knowledge</u> of the secrets of the kingdom of <u>heaven</u> has been given to you, but not to them.”” Matthew 13:11</p> <p>“When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had <u>compassion</u> on them and healed their <u>sick</u>.” Matthew 14:14</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WORD LIST</p> <p>deeds</p> <p>authority</p> <p>kingdom</p> <p>Jesus</p> <p>heaven</p> <p>rest</p> <p>repent</p> <p>crowd</p> <p>birth</p> <p>weary</p> <p>praise</p> <p>sick</p> <p>knowledge</p> <p>compassion</p> <p>light</p>
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The Components of Christ's Compassion



1. Divide the heart using lines, as if making a puzzle.
2. Write qualities of a compassionate leader inside these sections.
3. Color each section a different color and cut them apart.
4. Reassemble the "puzzle heart," and trade with a friend to work his or her puzzle.

If you want a more permanent craft to take home and hang:

1. Paste the pieces, leaving at least 1/4" between each one, to a sheet of construction paper.
2. Cut the label off the top of this page and paste it to the top of your puzzle page.

*A Heart Filled
With Christ-Like
Compassion*

*A Heart Filled
With Christ-Like
Compassion*

*A Heart Filled
With Christ-Like
Compassion*

*A Heart Filled
With Christ-Like
Compassion*

*A Heart Filled
With Christ-Like
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Compassion*

*A Heart Filled
With Christ-Like
Compassion*

*A Heart Filled
With Christ-Like
Compassion*

*A Heart Filled
With Christ-Like
Compassion*

Aim Questions

Answer the following questions about today's Bible Adventure.

1. How did Jesus show compassion for those around Him?
2. Can you trust Him when you have needs, both great and small?
3. How did Jesus demonstrate His authority over the physical elements?
4. How would you define the word “compassion”?
5. Can you think of anyone who might have some needs that you could meet like Jesus did?
6. What does His compassion tell us about whether or not we can be saved?

*Submit to Jesus' authority because He is compassionate toward you!
Meditate on Jesus' compassion and goodness.*

Matthew
14-15

“When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them and healed their sick.”

Matthew 14:14

What was Jesus trying to make the Pharisees understand?
(15:10-11)

How did Jesus respond to the Pharisees' offense? (15:13-14)

How did Jesus explain His statement in vs. 11? (15:15-20)

Read 15:21-28. Who were the children and the dogs that are mentioned? (15:26-27)

How did Jesus respond to the Canaanite woman's faith? (15:28)

How much bread and fish did the disciples have to feed the multitudes? (15:34b)

How many people did Jesus feed with this small amount of food? (15:38)

Passage Review Questions

Matthew 14-15

Who did Herod think Jesus was? (14:1-2)

How did Herod know John the Baptist? (14:3)

Why did Herod arrest John? (14:4)

What happened between Herod and John the Baptist? (14:4-12)

What was Jesus response to John's death? (14:13)

How did Jesus respond to the crowd who gathered around Him?
(14:14)

What did the disciples want Jesus to do concerning the crowd?
(14:15)

What was Jesus' response to the disciples? (14:16-19)

How many people did the five loaves and two fish feed? (14:21)

What did Jesus have the disciples do after the feeding of the 5,000? (14:22)

After praying, how did Jesus get to the disciples out on the lake? (14:25)

What did the disciples think they were seeing when Jesus walked out onto the water? (14:26)

How did Jesus calm them? (14:27)

Who walked out on the water to Jesus? (14:28-29)

What frightened Peter once he was out on the water? (14:30)

What was Jesus' response to Peter when he began sinking? (14:31a)

Once Jesus got into the boat, what was the disciples' response? (14:33)

What did the men of Gennesaret want from Jesus? (14:34-36)

What did the Pharisees ask Jesus? (15:1-2)

What was Jesus' response to them? (15:3-9)

What prophet did Jesus quote to the Pharisees? (15:8,9)