

Chapter 14 Show Compassion

I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me. *Matthew 25:40*

To the Parents:

In chapter 14, your child learned the following:

- Compassion involves making a conscious choice to care for others.
- A person must feel compassion for other people in order to experience God's compassion.
- Identifying the needs of others as your own makes compassion possible.

Human suffering is universal; no one escapes those terrible times in life when illness, financial hardship, loss of employment, or the death of a loved one brings great suffering and distress. Christians follow the model of Jesus in reaching out to those who are in pain, whatever the cause. They go beyond mere kindness to offer a compassionate heart. Because of their loving concern, they experience and share the sorrow and suffering of others.

Scripture is full of examples in which Jesus expresses compassion and loving concern for those who are suffering. Over and over he urged his friend to "love one another as I have loved you." Followers of Jesus constantly strive to be compassionate by living out his teachings.

With Your Child:

1. Read the story of Jesus feeding four thousand people (*Matthew 15:32-39*), and talk about the passage.
2. Together prepare a meal and invite a neighbor who may be without family and lonely.
3. Showing mercy is a way of being compassionate. Say a prayer for people who are unkind or mean to you.
4. Read the story of Father Horace McKenna on the Review and Explore page.