

# Cultivating Compassion for Other People

## **1 Corinthians 13:1-3**

### **Getting Along with Other People**

*If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. **Philippians 2:1-2***

***Some people never make the transition between knowledge and application. They never build the bridge between believing in Christ and behaving like Christ.***

*If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. **Romans 12:18***

*Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. **Ephesians 4:2***

*Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. **Hebrews 12:14***

*And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. **Luke 2:52***

*When a man's ways are pleasing to the LORD, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him. **Proverbs 16:7***

### **How to Get Along with People**

Sermon Series from focusing on the various aspects of love found in 1 Corinthians 13

*And now I will show you the most excellent way. **1 Corinthians 12:31***

## **1. The Importance of Compassion for People**

*If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. **1 Corinthians 13:1***

- Caring for others is more important than talent
  - The futility of a loveless life
  - word picture of a sounding gong
- Compassion is more important than intelligence

*"If I can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, ...but have not love, I am nothing."*

*We know that we all possess knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.*

### **1 Corinthians 8:1**

- Compassion is more important than faith

*“If I have faith that can move mountains, but I have not love I am nothing.”*

*“if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move.” **Matthew 17:20***

*“The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.” **Galatians 5:6***

- Compassion is more important than generosity

*“If I give all I possess to the poor, but have not love I gain nothing.”*

- Compassion is more important than accomplishment

*“If I surrender my body to the flames, but have not love I gain nothing.”*

*his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward.*

*If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames. **1 Corinthians 3:13-15***

- Relationships matter more than accomplishments

*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. **John 13:34***

- Relationships matter more than accomplishments

***Love is not an involuntary emotion.***

***Love is not a helpless feeling.***

***Love is a controlled behavior.***

***Because God does not command us to do something that we cannot do.***

*Each of you should look not only to your own interest, but also to the interest of others.*

**Philippians 2:4**

## **2. Cultivate Compassion in Our Families**

***Christian love is putting the interest of the other person ahead of self, regardless of feeling.***

*You will do things for your kids that you wouldn't do for normal people...*

### **3. Cultivate Compassion in the Church Family**

*By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.*

**John 13:35**

*I came to the exiles who lived at Tel Abib near the Kebar River. And there, where they were living, I sat among them for seven days—overwhelmed. **Ezekiel 3:15***

*Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" **John 11:35-36***

*If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. **1 Corinthians 12:26***

*Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.*

**1 Corinthians 13:8**

### **4. Cultivate Compassion for People at Work**

*But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you **Matthew 5:44***

- Matthew 5:43-46

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:8***

*If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink... Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. **Romans 12:20-21***

*"You can't preach the love of God with a clenched fist." —Dr. Olin Hayes*

*Speak the truth in love—**Ephesians 4:15***

*Be armed with the sword of the Spirit—**Ephesians 6:17***

*We are to have our feet fitted with the readiness that come from the gospel of peace—**Ephesians 6:15***

*But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. **1 Peter 3:15***

*But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.*

**1 Peter 3:16**

*“By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”*

*“A new command I give you: Love one another.*

*As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”* **John 13:35, 34**

*If you love me, you will obey what I command.* **John 14:15**