GRE

Student Bible Study Handouts Week 1 & Week 2

16:8 Compassion Bible Study - God is Compassionate

Matthew 15:3 -"I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way."

"Sometimes I would like to ask God why He allows poverty, famine and injustice in the world when He could do something about it... but I'm afraid He might ask me the same question."

We Are Called To Be Compassionate Like God

The bottom line is this: whether you understand how God interacts with the world or not, it is clear that we have an obligation to care for others.

We see this in both the Old Testament and the New Testament:

Zech 7:8-10

And the word of the LORD came again to Zechariah: "This is what the LORD Almighty said: 'Administer true justice; show mercy and **compassion** to one another. Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor. Do not plot evil against each other.

Col 3:12

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with **compassion**, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

We Need To Have Sustainable Compassion

2 Corinthians 1:3-5

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **the Father of compassion** and the God of all **comfort**, who comforts us in all our troubles, **so that we can comfort** those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.

This isn't just a theoretical conversation. This is real. This week we are going to show compassion to others. As we said at the beginning, Proverbs 16:8 teaches "better a little with righteousness than much gain with injustice."

There are **168** hours in a week. So in the next **168** hours – by this time next week – our goal is to raise **\$1,680** to feed **168** children in Nicaragua for a month.

God has compassion for them, and we are called to share His compassion. And whether we have little or much, we can all do something.

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16:8 Compassion Bible Study: The Offering

-Question: Do you have any questions about	
Convoy of Hope or FeedOne? Do you have any	
questions about how this gift will be handled?	
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If you want, visit charitynavigator.org and	
search for "Convoy of Hope" - notice that	
they have received the highest possible	
rating (four stars) for the last 9	
consecutive years.	
In the last 16 years they have helped over	
55 million people in over 100 countries.	
They currently have over 120,000	
children in their feeding initiatives.	
Convoy of Hope loves Chi Alpha, so we	
know they have good taste :)	-
good cases in	
Each child will receive not only food,	
but clean water, education and other	
holistic services. One of the most	
effective ways to ensure that children in	
difficult situations receive food is to	
deliver their meals to them at school.	
Read 2nd Corinthians 8:22-9:5	
Read 2nd Corinthians 9:6-11	
-Question: have you ever experienced the	
principle of reaping and sowing in your life? Tell	
the story.	
Read 2nd Corinthians 9:12-15	
-Question: Paul says generous giving leads to	
worship. How do you think that happens?	
Read Romans 15:25-32	
-Paul says: "Indeed they owe it to them"?	
What happened to "give freely and not under	
compulsion"? Is there a contradiction here?	