September 2024

DAY

1

Week One

## Compassion is caring enough to do something about someone else's needs.

Read: Matthew 5:16

DAY

3

#### Shine God's Light

With some family or friends, sit in a circle with a flashlight. Take turns holding the flashlight to your heart. When it is your turn, shine your light and tell the others how you can shine God's light to others around you.

#### ASK God to help you shine bright.

DAY 2

#### **Being the Light**

Draw a picture of you being a light to someone. You can shine a light by helping your mom or dad at the house, helping a friend at school, or doing something good in your neighborhood! What will you do this week?

#### LOOK for ways to be a light.

Light It Up

Read Matthew 5:16 aloud by flashlight. Think about what you can do to show your light to others. Share your plan with someone in your family!

#### KNOW that you can be a light.



DAY

#### Lights On

Talk to God about shining bright to those around you.

"Dear God, please help me to be a light to my friends and family this week. Please help me to do and say things that bring Your light to others. Help me to shine bright even when it's hard. Thank you for being the brightest light. Amen."

THANK God for showing you what it looks like to shine!

### You can shine God's light.

A Devotional on Compassion



Week One

# Compassion is caring enough to do something about someone else's needs.

### Read Matthew 5:16

DAY 1

When you go camping, what's one important thing on your to-do list? You start a fire! You need a fire to keep warm, cook hotdogs, and roast marshmallows. But a fire also gives you a light source in the middle of a dark forest or campground.

Compassion is like that. It's caring enough to do something about someone else's needs. Every time you see a need and do something to help, you shine a light in the darkness. Every time you show compassion, you point others to a loving and compassionate God.

#### **Compassion Challenge**

Write today's verse on a card and place it on your fridge or kitchen counter. Each time you see someone show compassion in your family this week, flip the lights on and off. Then name the act of compassion you witnessed and read the verse on the card aloud. DAY 2

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#### **Read Ephesians 5:8**

Has the power ever gone out at your house during a storm? When that happened, did your family sit around in the dark, waiting for the lights to come back on? You probably went on a search for all the flashlights and candles you could find!

When you choose to put your faith and trust in Jesus, to follow Him always, it's like moving from darkness to light! And now that you have that light, as a follower of Jesus, you should SHARE that light with others! You can shine God's light.

How do you shine a light? By treating others the way you want to be treated! In the light bulb, write some specific ways you can shine your light this week and show compassion.

A Devotional on Compassion

There's More! -



### Read 1 Peter 3:8

DAY 3

Do you have a night light or lamp in your room? It might not seem like it could make much of a difference, but even a small light can make a dark room seem way less scary!

When you see a need and do something to help, you shine God's light to everyone around you. Small acts of love and kindness can make a big difference, especially to the person you choose to help.

#### Word Search

Find the following words from today's verse. Then circle the word you want to focus on this week as you choose compassion.

> Agree Kind Love Understand Tender Humble

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**Read Daniel 12:3** 

#### Star Facts

- Every day, approximately 275 million stars are formed in the universe.
- All stars are made of the same basic ingredients: hydrogen and helium.
- The word "planet" comes from a Greek word meaning "wandering star."

God is the maker of all things, including light. When we choose to put our faith in Jesus, we become bearers of His light to the world around us. So how do you shine a light? By loving God and loving others. Daniel reminds us that when we shine like stars, we lead others to do what is right too.

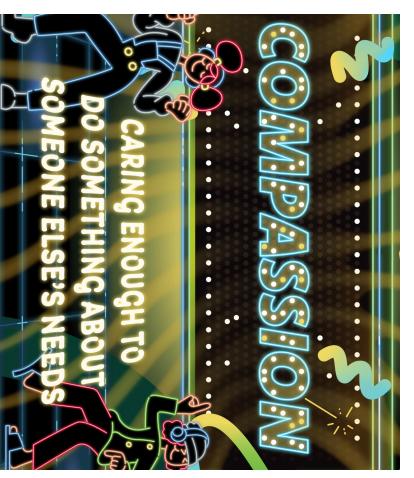
Do you know the song, "This Little Light of Mine?" Grab a flashlight, turn off the lights, and sing that song as your prayer today. Remember to let your little light shine as you show compassion this week.

## You can shine God's light.

thoughts or share them with a parent. the question below and journal your Spend some time thinking about



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## Day 1

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked:

feel free to check it out again! Even if you already saw it at church,

3. You'd like to know:

A Devotional on Compassion.

FOR AN

everyday faith.

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parentcue.org/app.

Download it for free at

2. You learned:

week's Bible story.

for iOS and Android) to watch this Visit the Parent Cue app (available

# Read Matthew 5:14-16

If you have a physical Bible, grab a highlighter (yellow, if possible). If you use a Bible app, grab a sheet of paper too, and start by writing out Matthew 5:14-16. Then read through Matthew 5:14-16, again, and highlight anytime you read the word light.

It's clear from reading this passage that light is important to God. In our everyday lives, we use light to see things better—and when we shine God's light, others can see God better!



## Day 3

Grab a flashlight, turn off some lights (but keep it light enough to be able to read) and every time you say the words "light" or "shine," turn on the flashlight for a second.

Then turn it off until you say the next "light" or "shine."

**Dear God,** thank You for being a light in my life. I want to shine Your light to show others how great You are. Please help me shine by loving You and loving others, and help me let Your light shine through me for all the world to see. In Jesus' Name, I pray. **Amen.** 

## Day 4

# You can shine God's light!

That's right, YOU! Sometimes it can be hard to know how to shine God's light though.

Grab a sheet of blank paper, a book or something else you can press down on, and a writing utensil. Draw a lightbulb onto the blank paper. Inside the lightbulb, write down some of the ways you can shine God's light. After you've written 2-3 things, find 2-3 people, either family members or friends, and ask them to share a couple of ways that you can shine God's light.

Then cut out the light bulb and hang it somewhere you will see it every day to remind you that You can shine God's light!

## Day 5

# How can you be a light?

Recruit a friend or family member to help you. Gather up as many light sources as you can—different size flashlights, a phone light, a head lamp, a candle (with an adults' supervision), and any other light sources you can find.

Find a room large enough where the other person can turn on the lights and aim them at a wall, and you can see the wall, but not the light source. Turn off the lights and have your friend or family member turn on the lights one at a time and point them at the wall. As they shine each light, guess out loud which light source it is.

There are a lot of ways to be a light—both literally and as someone who follows God. Take the lightbulb full of ideas from yesterday and use it as a guide during the coming weeks to shine God's light in different ways.