

Ascending The Mountain

Session 5: Compassionate

Intro Questions:

- What comes to mind when you hear the word “compassionate?”
- Who is someone in your life that you would describe as “compassionate,” and why?
- How is God compassionate?

Scripture:

Read Exodus 34:6-7, saying “Yahweh” when you see “LORD” in all caps.

This is God’s name and glory, the core of who He is, His being and essence manifesting itself as an intimate description. We are growing deeper into the journey of discovering how God wants to reveal Himself to us, and we begin today by talking about His “compassion.” The root of this Hebrew word is literally “womb,” meaning that it conveys the feeling of a mother toward her infant child. It’s a feelings word speaking of one’s heartfelt emotions.

Read Isaiah 49:14-15

- What message is God conveying here by comparing Himself to a nursing mother?
- What does this say about God’s compassion?

Read Psalm 103:8-13

- What message is God conveying here by comparing Himself to an earthly father?
- What is unique about a father’s compassion?
- What is unique about a mother’s compassion?
- What does this say about God’s compassion?

Read Hosea 11:1-9

- What stands out to you here?
- How does God describe Himself as a fatherly image here?
- What internal struggles is God facing here?
- What does this say about God’s compassion?

Read Mark 1:40-45 NLT

- What do you notice about Jesus that is similar to how Yahweh is described in the Old Testament?
- How does this embody the feelings of a parent towards their child?

Reflection:

- Think about a time you were moved with compassion for someone. What was the situation? What did it feel like? Take time to sit in the memory and imagine the person and the feeling.
 - Take a moment to imagine how God feels that towards you. Describe the situation and His expressions.
- Think about a time when your mom or a mother figure showed you compassion. What was the situation? What did it feel like? Take time to sit in the memory and imagine the person and the feeling.
 - Take a moment to imagine how God feels that towards you. Describe the situation and His expressions.
- Think about a time when your dad or a father figure showed you compassion. What was the situation? What did it feel like? Take time to sit in the memory and imagine the person and the feeling.
 - Take a moment to imagine how God feels that towards you. Describe the situation and His expressions.
- Think about a time when someone lacked compassion towards you. What was the situation? What did it feel like? Take time to sit in the memory and imagine the person and the feeling.
 - Take a moment to imagine how God feels that towards you. Describe the situation and His expressions.
- Lastly, read Exodus 34:6-7, saying “Yahweh” when you see “LORD” in all caps.