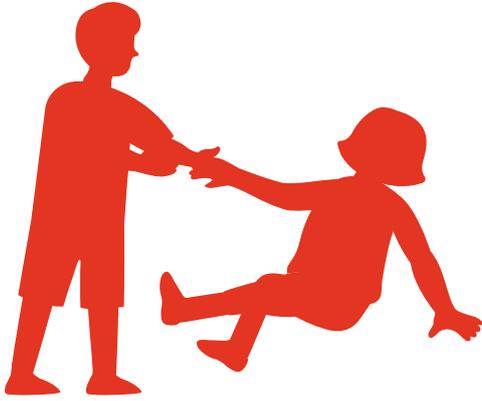


Thoughts on Compassion



What does compassion mean? You have compassion if you see someone having a hard time and you do something to help, to make it better. Compassion is doing, taking action, being involved. Compassion is going above and beyond feeling sorry for someone (showing sympathy), because to show compassion is to take positive action that will help others.

The Bible says

'My children, our love should not be only words and talk... And we should show that love by what we do.'

1 John 3:18

"When did we give you something to eat or drink? When did we welcome you as a stranger or give you clothes to wear or visit you while you were sick or in jail?" The king [Jesus] will answer, "Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me." Matthew 25:37-40

'You must clothe yourselves with compassion.'

Colossians 3:12

What do you think about these verses?

Do

Make a poster to encourage children at your school to show compassion to other people. Remember - 'Compassion is Action!'

Fact

Take CARE OF Others



Compassion literally means 'to suffer together'. The word charity comes from a Latin word 'caritas' meaning 'generous love'.

Idea



If someone fell over in the playground and hurt themselves, you might think 'ouch' and feel sorry for them. But if you leave what you are doing, go to them, help them up and take them to an adult for some first aid - you are showing compassion. Can you think of other examples where you might feel sorry for someone? How would you change that to action and showing compassion? How can you show compassion at school, at home, in your community?

Pray

Thank you for people that have compassion for us and help and support us. Help us to show compassion for others and to know the right action to take to help them.



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