

respond with compassion

HERE
2stay.
discussion guide

Gather a group of people (consider all ages) to watch the video and then to explore, discuss and consider some action steps that may follow.

DEFINE

What does 'responding with compassion' look like from your experience?

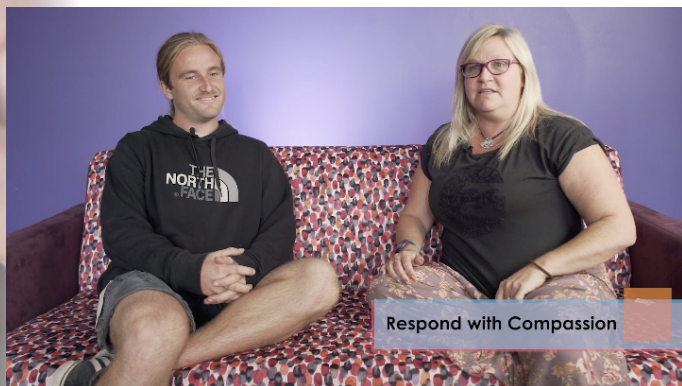
Modelling the compassion of Jesus in response to the needs of the world around us.

Sitting with His heart, seeing with His eyes and serving with His hands to help move people from brokenness to wholeness, to find 'life to the full'.

WATCH THE VIDEOS

These two examples reflect different aspects of what 'responding with compassion' could be. Spend time exploring more of this topic and consider some of the opportunities around this final question,

- ❖ *"What response will help to transform the life of someone else?"*



DISCUSSION

Reflecting on the story.

- ❖ What stood out for you in either story? Why do you think that is?
- ❖ Describe a compassionate response that has been part of your journey.

DEEPER

Unpacking the building blocks listed on the video.

- Talk through the experience beforehand
- Value suggestions from all ages
- Create spaces to engage in compassionate opportunities
- See your community with the eyes of Jesus
- Walk in another's shoes
- Allow people to respond from their hearts
- ❖ What stops us from responding to someone in need or a situation? What are the barriers?
- ❖ What are some risky opportunities for responding compassionately and what factors do you need to take into consideration when balancing risk vs opportunity?
- ❖ Can you think of a time a younger person has seen a need before you have? What was your response? What could have been a different response?

DISCOVER

Digging into stories in the Bible that reinforce these building blocks.

KEY VERSE

Romans 12:15 *“Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.”*

READ

John 6: 1-14

- ❖ When Jesus saw the crowd what did He see was the immediate need? (vs 5)
- ❖ How did Jesus involve others in the process of trying to meet the need? (vs 6)
- ❖ What is unexpected about the solution that is presented to Jesus? (vs 9)
- ❖ What do these verses say about what God can do in seemingly impossible situations? (vs 11–13)
- ❖ Which of the ‘responding with compassion’ building blocks were seen in this story? Did you see any others to add to the list of building blocks?

DECIDE

Make an intentional plan to implement something from this discussion

- ❖ Ask God to help you list the people and places that could use your help?
- ❖ How could you involve others in responding?

1 Talk through the experience beforehand

What are some of the potential situations that may need to be explained before beginning?

2 Value suggestions from all ages

Whose voices do you need to ensure are given opportunity to contribute?

3 Create spaces to engage in compassionate opportunities

Choose a starting 'space' from the list generated in the opening question above.

4 See your community with the eyes of Jesus

What needs would Jesus see if He walked around your community?

5 Walk in another's shoes

Talk about your understanding of the emotions and feelings carried by the people you are serving.

6 Allow people to respond from their hearts

How can you build some flexibility into your activity so as to respond to Spirit nudges in your heart?

DARE

Why don't you share your own "Responding with Compassion" story. Film it and send it to us. If it is 3-5 minutes long ... we would love to share it with others.



For more information & resources:

[here2stay.org](https://www.here2stay.org)

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