

**Encounter these verses today:**

*circle words that you identify with,  
underline phrases or sentences you'd  
like to remember, write questions about  
the passage out to the side ...*

**Luke 7:11-24 :: The Lost Son**

11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' 20 So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.



January 15, 2012 | Pastor Terry Bate

*"But you, Lord, are a compassionate and  
gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in  
love and faithfulness.*

*Psalms 86:15*

***How do you define the word "compassion"? Examples?***

***Compassion in ACTION ...***

*(the what we do)*

***The MOTIVE of Compassion ...***

*(the why we do)*

***How can we increase our Compassion Awareness?***



# Digging Deeper

[Engaging the message throughout the week]

## Monday: 01.16.2012

**Prayer Focus:** The Flushing Community

**Passage:** Lamentations 3:22-24

**Insight:** *We will start off this week of Digging Deeper by looking at the words of hope and promise buried in the book of crying out to God. Lamentations is a book in the Bible that is written at a time of great despair and hopelessness. Yet in that dark moment, the author claims the promise of God's unfailing compassion.*

**Questions for consideration:**

*Is it difficult to see God's faithfulness in dark times?*

*What can you do to set your mind on God's compassion when all around you seems to be crumbling?*

## Tuesday: 01.17.2012

**Prayer Focus:** FCC Church Leadership

**Passage:** 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

**Insight:** *In this passage, the Lord is given the title the "Father of all Compassion." He is one that comforts and understands our troubles. He is one that desires that we find hope and security. Find comfort in the fact that he will never leave you - even in your darkest hour.*

**Questions for consideration:**

*Picture the hardest time you've experienced in your life. Can you see How God was present in those moments?*

*Do you find strength in knowing that God will be with you as you move forward in life even now?*

## Wednesday: 01.18.2012

**Prayer Focus:** Upward Basketball & Cheer

**Passage:** Psalm 86

**Insight:** *As you read this Psalm, make it your prayer for this day. Seek mercy. Request joy. Embrace forgiveness. Listen for answers. See His hand in your life. Learn His ways. Let praises fly from your lips. Leap for His compassion. Receive His mercy.*

**Questions for consideration:**

*How does reading Psalm 86 impact your perspective on life?*

*How can you pray like this regularly?*

## Thursday: 01.19.2012

**Prayer Focus:** May God Reveal His Light to You

**Passage:** 1 Peter 3:8-22

**Insight:** *This might seem like a strange passage for this week but I believe it speaks to the motivation lens we looked at on Sunday. Why do we act with compassion? Because that's the way of the cross. That's the way of Jesus. If we want to call ourselves Christian, then we need to be ready to act like it, face criticism like it, be insulted like it, be blessed like it.*

**Questions for consideration:**

*Often we are drawn to what is evil. How can we make compassion our aim instead?*

*Christ died for everyone - not the good but for all (no exceptions).*

*How can your compassion show that truth to others?*

## Friday: 01.20.2012

**Prayer Focus:** Our church worship services (1/22/12)

**Passage:** Colossians 3:12-14

**Insight:** *As we march into another weekend, may we take the words that are written here and put them into action. Let's not talk about compassion and kindness, let's put it on like a new shirt that we are proud and excited to wear! Let's not be shy about the life we are called to live, let's do this!*

**Questions for consideration:**

*Compassion is closely connected to all other virtues in this list. Can you do one thing on this list without doing another?*

*How can you live out these virtues this weekend?*



*Do you want to pray for the needs of our church and community with greater direction? Sign up to receive our weekly iPray email that does just that! Email [mak@flushingcommunity.org](mailto:mak@flushingcommunity.org) today!!*