

# Looking At Compassion

By Mike Riley

There was a time when I thought the word “compassion” had to do with self-giving and the outpouring of one’s spirit. However, when I looked the word up in the dictionary, I discovered that compassion is not so much an outpouring, as it is a “strong desire to alleviate the suffering” of an individual or individuals.

To be a person of compassion is to become conscious of another person’s distress and sympathetically conscious. To “be affected with the same feeling as another” (see Greek lexicon definition).

To the highest degree possible, we must see and feel the sufferings of the distressed person from the inside — not just through our own needs and beliefs, but through the other individual’s own body or eyes.

This is exactly what the Hebrew writer was trying to get the church to accomplish in Hebrews 13:3 when he stated:

“Remember the prisoners as if chained with them, and those who are mistreated, since you yourselves are in the body also.”

They were to identify with the imprisoned and ill-treated, remembering that they too might be subject to the same mistreatment as the above prisoners were undergoing (cf. Hebrews 10:32-34).

Demonstrating compassion is always a critically important response to suffering, and is the first step toward healing.

Many folks in our world today are hurting mentally, physically, and spiritually. As Christians, we can’t possibly do everything to eliminate their pain. Still, we can do some things (cf. Mark 14:8). We need to be open, sensitive, and aware of the needs of people around us as our Lord was (cf. Matthew 9:36; Matthew 14:14; Matthew 15:32; Matthew 18:27; Matthew 20:34; Mark 1:41; Mark 6:34; Mark 8:1-2; Luke 7:13; Luke 10:33; Luke 15:20).



**STERLINGTON**  
Church of Christ



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Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM  
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM  
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

11/26/23

## Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshiping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

## Those to Serve

### Today

**Announcements-** Wayne Fowler **Opening prayer-** Paul Simpson

**Communion-** Travis Rogers **Closing Prayer-** Ronnie Hayes

**Sermon-** Don DeLukie

### December 3rd

**Announcements-** Lyle Russell **Opening prayer-** Ronnie Hayes

**Communion-** Wayne Fowler **Closing Prayer-** David Reppond

**Sermon-** Don DeLukie

## Announcements

—**Children's Christmas Program:** December 9th at 2 PM will be our Children's Christmas Program. Reception to follow. Please see sign-up sheet in the kitchen.

—**Question & Answer Series:** Our next Question and Answer Series will be scheduled when enough questions are collected. Give your questions to Don.

—**Children's Home Collection:** Our congregation is collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection boxes are by the nursery. A list of needed items is in the foyer.



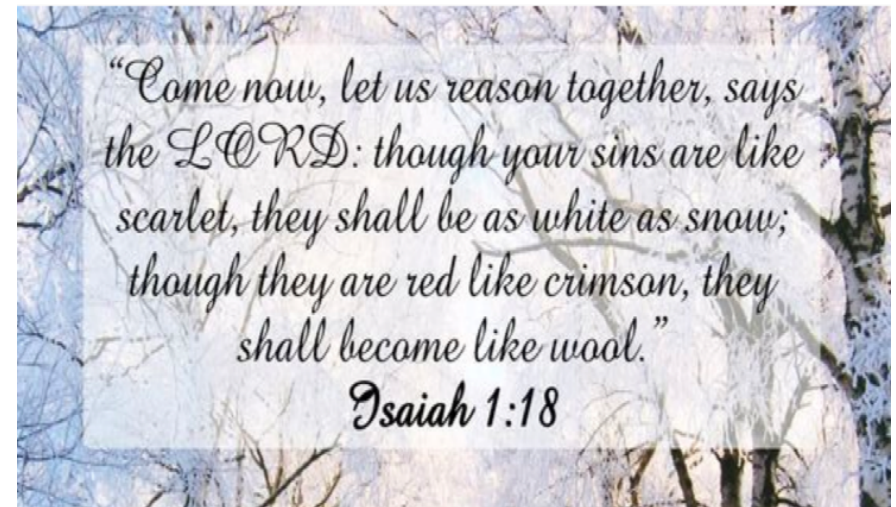
## Please Pray For:

Dan Ross Jr, Mike Jones, Gena Granger, Carolyn A. Wilson, Mike Williams, Mike Wiggins, Gary Parker, Sharon White-Ross, Sherry Miller, Ronnie Tatum, Joyce McDonald, Cindy Smith, Ed Haltom.

**Bereaved:** Families of Elizabeth Hollis, Kathy Isle, Billy Thomas, Vera Henry, John Jones, and Marilyn Hemler.

## Continue to Pray For:

Joanne Randolph, Dwain & Bettye Flowers, Susie McGough, Linda Garris, Sharon White-Ross, James & Lorene Johnson, Bobby Barker, Gail Sewell, Renee Gee, Malea Zuber, Bobby Simmons, Tricia Muse, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross.



### November birthdays

3 - Elaine Reppond	13 - Susie McGough
5 - Glenda Wells	20 - Dana Fowler
8 - Brad Smith	25 - Dan Ross Jr.
9 - Raelyn Freeman	28 - Dena White
11 - Tommy Wells	30 - Ayden Richardson

### November anniversaries

3 - Ronnie & Dena White
17 - Buddy & Carlon Hollis
18 - Randy & Kathy Manning
21 - Travis & Rhonda Rogers
26 - Dwain & Bettye Flowers