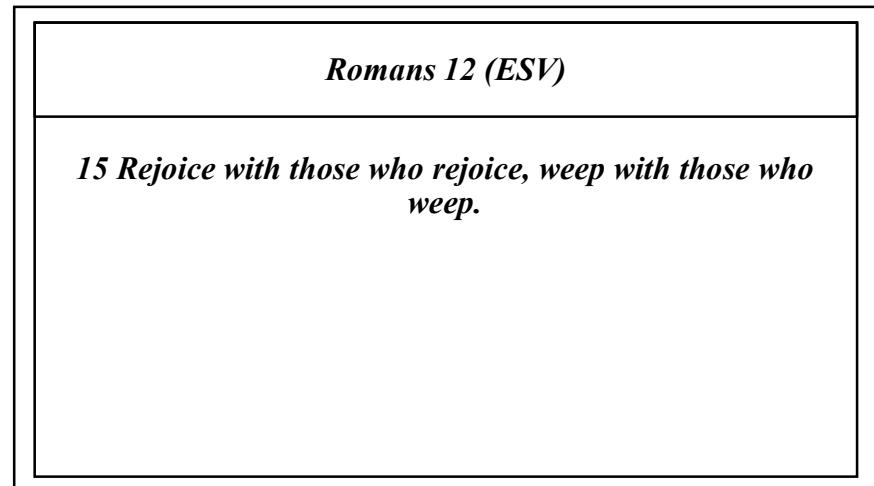




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Main Theme
<p>Empathy is the Christlike ability to enter another's experience with tenderness, patience, and understanding - reflecting the compassion of Jesus as we care for those who cannot fully express their needs.</p>

3



4

The Compassion of God

- God does not observe suffering from a distance - He enters it.
- As caregivers, we reflect His heart when we respond with gentleness to the frailty of our loved one.

The Compassion of God

- God understands human frailty - He knows our limitations & responds with compassion, not frustration.

13 As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. 14 For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.
(Psalm 103:13–14)

5

6

The Compassion of God

13 As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. 14 For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.
(Psalm 103:13–14)

The Compassion of God

- God shares in our affliction - His empathy is active, not passive.

9 In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. (Isaiah 63:9 ESV)

7

8

The Compassion of God

- God's gentleness protects the vulnerable.

3 a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. (Isaiah 42:3 ESV)

The Compassion of God

- His compassion is rooted in His character.

6 The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, (Exodus 34:6 ESV)

9

10

The Compassion of God

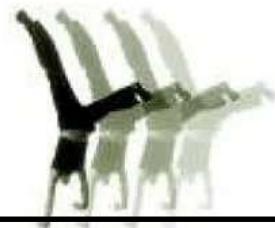
- He invites us to mirror His compassion - Empathy is part of walking humbly with Him.

*8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
(Micah 6:8 ESV)*

11

12

Empathy in Action



Empathy in Action

- Jesus consistently noticed people others overlooked.
- His compassion moved Him toward them with healing, comfort & and dignity.
- Jesus sees people with compassionate eyes - He recognizes their helplessness & responds with care.

36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. (Matthew 9:36 ESV)

13

Empathy in Action

- Jesus enters the pain of caregivers with deep empathy.

13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.” (Luke 7:13 ESV)

14

Empathy in Action

- Jesus responds to suffering with action - Compassion led Him to serve.

14 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. (Matthew 14:14 ESV)

15

Empathy in Action

- Jesus sympathizes with human weakness - He understands our emotional & physical limits.

15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrews 4:15 ESV)

16

Empathy in Action

- Jesus' compassion restores dignity - He touches the untouchable, affirming their worth.

41 Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and touched him and said to him, “I will; be clean.” (Mark 1:41 ESV)

17

Empathy and Relationships



18

Empathy and Relationships

- Empathy is a spiritual practice that creates connection even when communication becomes difficult.
- It reflects Jesus' love in daily caregiving.
- Empathy means sharing emotional space - Rejoicing & weeping with others builds connection (Romans 12:15).

19

Empathy and Relationships

- Empathy lightens burdens - Caregiving becomes a shared journey rather than a solitary struggle.

2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2 ESV)

20

Empathy and Relationships

- Empathy is intentional as we look to the interests of others, especially when they cannot express them.

3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. (Philippians 2:3–4 ESV)

21

Empathy and Relationships

- Empathy flows from a tender heart - A gentle spirit opens the door to deeper connection.

*8 Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.
(1 Peter 3:8 ESV)*

22

Empathy and Relationships

- Empathy expresses love in action - Caregiving becomes a living demonstration of Jesus' love.

*17 But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? 18 Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.
(1 John 3:17–18 ESV)*

23

Discussion Questions

- How have you experienced God's compassion toward you during difficult caregiving moments?
- Jesus often "saw" people others overlooked. What does it look like for you to "see" your loved one with Christlike eyes?
- When communication becomes difficult due to dementia, how can empathy help maintain connection?
- What practical steps can you take this week to reflect Jesus' compassion more intentionally in your caregiving?

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