

FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 18, 2018

BIBLE STORY:

Matthew 14:13-21; 15:32-39

BIBLE VERSE:

Matthew 15:32a

BABIES–PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

Jesus cared about people.

YOUNGER KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

Jesus cared for others.

OLDER KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

Jesus had compassion for the people and helped them.

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

1 Corinthians 7:1-13

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

1 Corinthians 7:17

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *1 Corinthians 7:8-16*

MONDAY: *1 Corinthians 7:17-24*

TUESDAY: *1 Corinthians 7:25-31*

WEDNESDAY: *1 Corinthians 7:32-40*

THURSDAY: *1 Corinthians 8:1-6*

FRIDAY: *1 Corinthians 8:7-13*

SATURDAY: *1 Corinthians 9:1-7*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study Matthew and 1 Corinthians together as a family:



- **Jesus showed compassion for all people.** Jesus continued His display of God-honoring living by showing compassion to all people. Jesus showed no distinction between those He helped, healed, and cared for. Jesus based His response to people on faith and nothing else. Those who had faith in Jesus received His healing and compassion regardless of their upbringing or age. Matthew 14 shares the story of Jesus' compassion on a crowd of Jewish followers. The Jews should have been prepared for Jesus' arrival, but many did not understand Who He was. The crowd Jesus ministered to in Matthew 15 was a group of Gentile followers. The Gentiles, unlike the Jews, believed in Jesus through faith, not tradition.
- **Meeting physical needs.** Jesus told the disciples in both feeding miracles to provide bread for the crowds. The disciples, in both instances, had no food with them and looked around to see what the crowd had available. The amount of food gleaned was minute, but Jesus took the bread and fish and provided food until everyone had their fill. Jesus provided miraculously for the physical needs of the people, but His desire to meet the spiritual needs of the people was much more important. Jesus' life exemplified holy living in order to draw more people to become God followers.
- **Honor God with your life.** Paul continued his teaching of the Corinthian believers by encouraging them to remain faithful to God and honor Him by keeping the vows they had made to one another in their marriages. The Corinthians had forgotten what a God-honoring life looked like and began to display behaviors that were more in line with unbelievers than those who followed Jesus. Paul highlighted several instances for the Corinthians in which they needed to show compassion that mirrored the compassion Jesus showed for the crowds. Paul told the Corinthians to remain faithful to God no matter what circumstances they were in. Like Jesus showed compassion for the crowds who were hungry for physical food, Paul encouraged the Corinthians to remain hungry for spiritual food and be compassionately fed by God's Word.