

IMMANUEL; GOD WITH US
Part 2: A Connection With Compassion

(Matthew 1:23 NKJ)

LIFE CAN BE HARD

A. Christmas is not jolly for everybody

1. A reminder of who is not present
2. The stigma of being alone
3. Feelings of inadequacy
4. Unrealistic expectations - Reserve Christmas miracles for Hallmark

B. Life may be hard but God is not *(Psalm 86:15 NIV)*

1. His character / nature is merciful and forgiving
2. He is the opposite from hardened

PUTTING A FACE ON COMPASSION *(Luke 10:30-37 NLT)*

A. Compassion was unwilling to ignore a hard situation

1. Religion passed by
2. The Samaritan moved toward the man with the problem

B. Compassion brought help to someone unable to help himself

1. The man was physically unable to help himself
2. The Samaritan helped in a kind way

A. Compassion did not leave the man without help

1. Picked up the tab for the room
2. Paid the innkeeper to provide care

YOUR CONNECTION WITH COMPASSION

A. God with us is compassion with us - and it lifts us *(2 Corinthians 4:1b NKJ)*

1. God has stopped for you
2. You did not and never can earn His help in your life
3. He has not and will never abandon you

B. Your personal connection with compassion

1. Giving thanks is more than polite, it's your connector *(Psalm 118:1 NKJ)*
2. The ultimate objective is you showing God's compassion to others