

## **Potential Discussion Questions**

### **Message: Know God - Compassion (9-9-18)**

1. Think about a time when you desperately needed compassion and it didn't come. How about a time when compassion flowed in. Compare and contrast your feelings and experience. What can/did you learn from each situation?
2. Read a few of the passages that declare God's compassion. Sit and soak in them for a few minutes. What stands out to you? What thoughts and emotions do you have? What connections do you see?
3. Share a time when you clearly sensed God's compassion. What was the context? What was the impact on your life? How did/does it spur your compassion for others?
4. Scripture frequently links compassion to sin, rebellion, and repentance. Review a couple of the passages referenced in the message. What do you discover going on in those contexts? How are God's compassionate acts contingent on the heart/response of the people? How does this stir your heart to become a recipient of God's compassion?
5. Take some time to pray for people in your sphere of influence that are cutting themselves off from God's compassion by their own resistance and rebellion. How do Joel, Daniel and Nehemiah help you formulate your prayers? (Talk about your insights, then use them to guide your prayers.)
6. What does it mean to *put on a heart of compassion*? What have you learned that helps you do this?
7. Do you ever feel like your compassion is abused or taken advantage of? How do you identify and deal with that? How do you keep from becoming cynical or withdrawing all compassion to avoid the disappointment or hurt?
8. Do you ever feel compassion fatigue? How does it impact you? How do you counteract it?
9. Is God stirring any specific compassionate response in you as a result of this study? Share it and pray for each other as you carry out the Spirit's promptings.
10. What else would you like to discuss about this study on God's compassion?
11. What is your best take-away from this study?