

DAY  
4

During the Christmas season, many people use Advent calendars to look forward to the day of Jesus' birth. Instead of (or in addition to) an Advent calendar, consider creating a "Compassion Calendar" to plan and record acts of compassion that you show others throughout this month. You could use the calendar on your phone, print one from a computer, or use your school planner.

However you decide to do it, sit down and plan out some ways (and days!) that you will put compassion into action this month. Your goal is to **make others your mission**. Sometimes, an opportunity to show compassion happens unexpectedly. When that happens, go back and record it on your calendar.

At the end of the month, you'll be able to see how God has used you in big and small ways to share His love with others and take part in restoring a broken world!

# COMPASSION



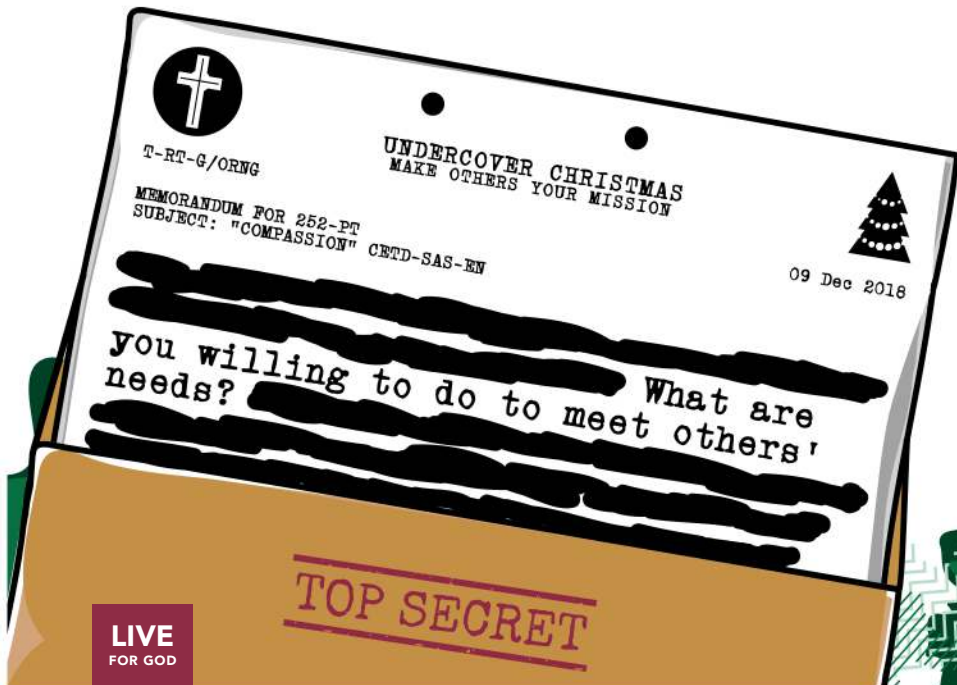
DAY  
1

## READ LUKE 1:26-56

As you read the story of Jesus' birth being foretold by the angel, Gabriel, what do you notice about Mary? She was just an ordinary girl in the small town of Nazareth. She didn't do anything to earn this special calling, but God chose her to help accomplish His plan to rescue His people.

Maybe you feel like there isn't anything special about you. Maybe you think God wouldn't or couldn't use you to do anything great for His kingdom because you just don't have what it takes. Mary is a prime example of the fact that God can use anyone to accomplish His plans and show His compassion to others.

The one thing that Mary *did* have to offer was a heart that was willing to be obedient to God. Reread verse 38. Would that be your response?





## DAY 2

As we think about Mary and the role God gave her to play in His compassion plan, pray that God would give you an obedient heart like Mary's: a heart that is ready and willing to do something about someone else's need, even if we don't think we have what it takes.

### When you pray, ask God to . . .

- show you how you can **put compassion into action**, even when you don't feel like you have anything special to offer
- help you be brave and obedient when He does give you opportunities to be compassionate
- make you more like Him as you learn to show compassion to others.

## DAY 3

Tell a trusted adult about the story of Gabriel and Mary from Luke 1.

Ask them to share how they put compassion into action, even in small ways. Remember, **compassion is caring enough to do something about someone else's need**. After they share their stories, work together to write a something's you could do for the people God has placed in your life like classmates, neighbors, teammates, or friends at church.

**TOMORROW, YOU'LL PUT SOME OF THESE IDEAS INTO ACTION!**



**PRAY**  
TO GOD



**TALK**  
ABOUT GOD

