

Compassion for One Another

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- [0 : 0 0] Peter, chapter 3, 1 Peter, chapter 3. Over the last few weeks, we have talked about the one another's.
- We've been talking about different ones. We talked about the fact that we are to love one another. We are to be kind one to another. We are to minister one to another.
- We are to be members one of another. Last week, we talked about forgiving one another. And today, if we do all those things, we should be able to show compassion for one another.
- Compassion. 1 Peter, chapter 3, beginning at verse 8. 1 Peter 3, beginning at verse 8. And it says, finally, be all of one mind, having compassion one of another.
- Love his brethren, be pitiful, be courteous, not rendering evil for evil or railing for railing, but contrary wise blessing. Knowing that ye are there unto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.
- [1 : 0 8] For he that will love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil and his lips that they speak no guile. Let him eschew evil and do good.
- Let him seek peace and ensue it. For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers. But the face of the Lord is against them that do evil. And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?
- And be, and but, and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye. And be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled. But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts.
- And be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear. Let's have a word of prayer. Father, I pray this morning you would help us as we look at your word.
- Lord, that you would help us to understand the meaning, understand what's behind it. Lord, understand what you're requiring of us. That we show compassion one to another.
- [2 : 1 3] We show compassion to those around us. Lord, that we would have a heart that is filled with the things that we've talked about. Love and kindness, ministering, all of those different things, Lord.
- May we show those things by the compassion that we have for others. Lord, help this morning for us to leave here walking closer with you.
- Walking in your mindset. Helping us to show compassion. Lord, bless now we pray in Jesus' name. Amen. Amen. We live in a fast-paced world.
- And in that world, there's a lot of things going on in our daily activities. And sometimes we're just going from one thing to the next thing to the next thing to the next thing. And as we do that, God says he will bless us.
- He has blessings he wants to give us. But he says he's going to do that as we show compassion and as we give thanks. He wants us to give thanks to him.

[3 : 17] Psalm 100, verses 4 and 5 say, Enter in his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise. Be thankful unto him and bless his name. For the Lord is good and his mercy is everlasting.

And his truth endureth to all generations. God wants us to cultivate an attitude of thanksgiving in our hearts. And as we cultivate that heart of gratitude, we will be less inclined toward covetousness.

And we'll be more inclined toward others. And showing compassion to them. And wanting to help them and be kind to them and show love and all those things. When we learn to show thankfulness, our heart's going to become one that will nurture.

Our heart's going to become one that will give to others. Someone defined compassion as your hurt in my heart. Your hurt in my heart.

You know, as we watch the world that we live in. As we watch the social media things that take place.

[4 : 28] As we listen to prayer requests from people. We sometimes see those things and we're touched by them. But pretty soon we just kind of move on from it, don't we?

We hear something, oh man, that's too bad. Oh, that's so sad. Oh, that's... And we move on from it. We're not quite like Jesus. And we're supposed to live like Jesus. And have the mindset that he had.

Matthew 14, 14. Jesus went forth and saw a great multitude. And was moved with compassion toward them. And he healed their sick. Did you catch?

He was moved with compassion. And he acted on it. He didn't just go, oh, that's too bad. But he acted on it. We need to do the same thing.

We need to have compassion for people. But we need to act on it as well. First thing this morning. The realm of compassion.

[5 : 25] I like to do alliteration. So, the realm. How far are we supposed to go with this? Well, in this verses that we just read. In 1 Peter.

He says, in chapter 8 there. He says, have compassion one to another. We should have compassion for all people around us. But especially our fellow Christians.

Especially those who are here in church with us. Especially those who are part of the, as the word says, household of faith. We need to have compassion for each one of those within the body of Christ.

And the phrase compassion one for another. Has the idea to feel for one another. To suffer for one another. To identify for one another. He says, we're to have a heart of compassion that leads to action.

For each one of us that are here. And for those who are around us. And Christ demonstrated that compassion. And we need to demonstrate it as well. Notice it says there in verse 8.

[6 : 24] Finally, be ye all of one mind. Having compassion one of another. We need to have a unified mindset. A unified mindset. Do we all have that mind of Christ?

One mind. Like-minded. Harmonious. I was thinking about that. Harmonious. It's a musical term.

I almost did this this morning. I was going to have Bonnie step the piano. But I didn't. I was thinking. There's a difference. When things are harmonious. It's not a uniformity.

But there is a unity. That takes place. Here's what I mean by that. If we were to sing the song. Okay. It just went right out of my mind.

It is well with my soul. It is well with my soul. Most of us would sing that. And we'd sing the lyrics that are in front of us. And we'd sing the melody line. But a lot of people know the harmony to that.

[7 : 29] They know the other parts. The alto. The tenor. The bass. And if we were to take that song. We could do it in uniformity. Where we all sing the melody. All together. Which is what happens a lot of the time.

But then you add in the harmonies. The alto. The tenor. And the bass. And you hear what happens there. That's what it means by harmonious. It is one song.

Different parts. But makes a one sound. A glorious sound before heaven. And God wants us to be like that. We're to show compassion one to another.

We all take our different gifts. We all take the things that God has given to us. And we use them together. To have a unity. Not a uniformity. We're not all the same. But we have a unity.

That takes place. Our world is so often divided. But the church should be the one place you come. And you find unity. Shared doctrines. Shared beliefs.

[8 : 29] Shared care for one another. You know. We have differences. But what brings us together. In Jesus Christ. Is stronger.

Than anything that should divide us. Philippians chapter 2. Verses 2 and 3 say. Fulfill ye my joy. That ye be like minded. Having the same love.

Being of one accord. Of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife. Or vainglory. But in lowliness of mind. Let each esteem other. Better than themselves. Notice this. One like minded.

Same love. One accord. One mind. We should be unified. In bringing glory to God. And what he has for us. We should be unified.

Not trying to build ourselves up. But just so that we can build up Christ. And his church. I'm going to give you an illustration. I have not gone through this illustration.

[9 : 27] I've been through this message four times. I have not gone through this illustration once. Without starting to cry. So bear with me. If I do this. And I'm not sure why this one makes me cry. But it does.

Ten days. After Pearl Harbor. People of North Platte. Nebraska. Received word. That soldiers.

From their area. Were going to be coming through. On a train. And so. The wives. And the mothers. And different ones. Got all kinds of stuff together. Care packages. Coffee.

You know. Letters. All kinds of things. To be ready to give these guys. When they came through. Day arrived. The train finally came. Instead of Nebraska National Guard Company D.

It was the Kansas National Guard Company D. That came through. So here's all these ladies. With all these gifts. And all these people they do not know.

[10 : 26] Are getting off the train. Finally. And. Finally. One lady. Handed. A care package. To a soldier.

Gave it to him. Explaining. She had meant it for her son. But. Thank you for being willing to serve yourself. And she gave it. And many of the other ladies followed suit. You know.

We can often. By showing compassion ourselves. Show. Get others to do the same thing. If we set the tone. The town. Soon after. Organized.

A canteen. So that. They could get together. And they could prepare food. And distribute. Care packages. When the soldiers. Came passing through on the train. It stayed in operation.

For the next four and a half years. And every time a train would come through. The women of North Platte. Were prepared. They had sandwiches. They had cookies. They had coffee. For the soldiers that got off the plane.

[11 : 24] Off the train. Some days. More than 8,000. Would come through there. And they were ready. To give them the things that they had. The last train arrived on April 1st.

1946. By then. The North Platte canteen. Had served 6 million soldiers.

Yeah. You know. It makes me think. Here in Bangor. How many people had gone through. The airport in Bangor. When the different wars were going on.

And people were there. To greet them. And give them things. Sometimes the soldiers. When they got off the train. Only had like 10 minutes. Or so. Before they had to be back on. And going again. But they made sure.

That they had stuff. And so many of the soldiers. Were touched by this. And remembered. Finally. A book was written. Once upon a town.

[12 : 25] By a guy. By the name of Bob Green. He went back. And he interviewed. Different soldiers. Who had gone through there. Talked to them. About their story. And what had happened to them.

As they went through. North Platte. He said. Their response. To the kindness. That was shown to them. Shown to them. During that time.

He said. Every one of them. Wept. I think of. Again Bangor. And how many people.

Have come back. Because of the. People who greeted them. At the airport. When they were going through. On their way to. Iraq. Or. Iran. Or wherever they were going.

Suppose. Somebody comes to our church. We've got visitors here today. So. Somebody comes to our church. And we see them. Ten years later. What impact.

[13 : 24] Did our church have. On that time. That you visited. Would their reply be. Somebody cared. For me. Do we care.

See. Showing compassion. Do we care. About the people. We come in contact with. Jude. Verse 22. Says. And of some. Have compassion. Making a difference.

Showing compassion. To people. Can make a difference. In their life. Life. So. We should have. A unified mindset. But we should also have. With that unified mindset. It should be a loving.

Mindset. A loving mindset. Verse 8. Goes on to say. Love as brethren. Be pitiful. Be courteous. He gives us three different things there. Love as brethren.

We should love. As family. Do you love. As family. Do you care. About each other. As family. We need to show that brotherly love.

[14 : 22] He says. Be pitiful. That word means. Does not mean. Weak. Lame. Those type of things. It means. Tender hearted. We should be tender hearted.

To those around us. Full of pity. Full of affection. Toward those that are around us. Last week. We were talking about. Forgiving one another.

Ephesians 4. 32. And be kind. One to another. Tender hearted. Forgiving one another. Even as God. For Christ's sake. Hath forgiven you. Christ's heart toward us.

He came. And gave his life. So that we can have salvation. He loved us. Be courteous. He says. Courteous there. Is the idea of. Being friendly.

Being kind. Literally. The word means. To be humble minded. To be humble minded. See. If we're courteous. To people. We are not putting ourselves.

[15 : 19] Over them. We're not putting ourselves up. As better than them. We're looking to see. How we can be a blessing. To them. So we need to have. The realm. Of everyone. In this building.

Those other Christians. We have. As friends. Anybody who's a Christian. But then. Also. Christ came and died. For the whole world. So if we have. The mindset of Christ. We're going to have. The mindset of being courteous.

And being. Kind. And compassionate. Toward all. How do we do that? The reach. Of compassion. How do we reach out. To people. And show them.

Well. How about. First of all. If we do it verbally. Look at verses 9 through 11. He says. Not rendering evil. For evil. Or railing. For railing. But contrary. Wise blessing.

Knowing that ye. Are there unto called. That ye should inherit. A blessing. For he that will love life. And see good days. Let him refrain his tongue.

[16 : 16] From evil. And his lips. That they speak. No guile. Let him eschew evil. And do good. Let him seek peace. And ensue it. Because of the powerful influence.

Of our words. We need to be very careful. How we use them. We need to use our words. In such a way. As to edify. To lift up. We need to encourage others.

When we speak unkindly. To people. It's going to hurt them. It's going to cause strife. It's going to lead to problems. He says. No. Uplift. Encourage. Help them.

We reach out in compassion. We're going to use positive words. Notice in verse 9. He says. We're not going to be rendering evil. For evil. Or railing. For railing. But we're going to give blessing.

The word blessing there. Comes from the same word. That we have. That we use. At funerals. For eulogy. When somebody gives a eulogy. At someone who's passed away. What are they doing?

[17 : 13] They're talking about the person. And the positive things. About their life. They're talking about. How they influence them. How they influence others. How they change lives. How they did. Things that were encouraging.

And uplifting. He says. That's the kind of speech. That we're supposed to do. Proverbs 25. 11. Probably. A lot of you know that one. Word fitly spoken. Is like.

Pitchers of gold. Gold. Apples of gold. And pictures of silver. I've actually seen a picture. Done that way. All. Silver. A couple of gold apples.

In the middle of it. Kind of neat. Stands out. Something you look at. And you go. Whoa. That's. That's different. That's the way we should be. Our words should be different.

Than the rest of the world. They should be something. That stands out. Our words should be. Things that are gold. To those people. That we are talking to. They're valuable. You ever think of your words.

[18 : 12] As being valuable. We talk a lot. Especially in this country. There's a lot of speech. There's a lot of things going on. A lot of people. People just talk. Talk. Talk. Talk. Talk. Talk. Do you ever stop and think.

That the words that you're speaking. Are valuable. Or at least should be. Valuable. And the way we handle them. George Truitt. He was pastor.

For decades. At the First Baptist Church of Dallas. One day. He was out hunting with friends. And he accidentally shot. And killed.

His best friend. His daughter said. She never heard him laugh. After that day. And as the pastor of the church.

He had a radio program. That went on the radio every day. And he ended every program. With the same saying. Think about what he said. Be good to everybody.

[19 : 11] Because everybody. Is having a tough time. Be good to everybody. Because everybody. Is having a tough time. If we were to go around the room here. We could probably come up with.

All kinds of things. That's going on. In people's lives. That are tough. Things that are hard. Be careful. How you use your words. Be careful. What you say to people.

You don't know. What they're going through. You don't know. What they're facing. Try to be encouraging. Try to be uplifting. Romans chapter 12. Verse 18. If it be possible.

As much as life in you. Live peaceably. With all men. As much as possible. Speak kindly. Speak words. That are pleasant. Speak words.

And encouragement. Show compassion. Notice it says. As much as life in you. Well. If you're a Christian. Jesus Christ. Is living within you. You should be able to speak kindly.

[20 : 08] Romans chapter 14. Verse 19. Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace. And things therewith. Ye may edify another. Again.

He says. Look for peace. Look for things that are going to edify. Things that are going to build up. Use your speech. Seasoned.

With salt. And grace. Remember it talks about. So reach people verbally. By the things that you say. Also reach them thoughtfully. Thoughtfully. Sometimes it's not only the manner of the speech that we have.

The things that we say. Sometimes it's a matter of the things that we don't say. Sometimes. Sometimes. It's better just to be quiet. You know the old saying. If you can't say something good about somebody.

Don't say anything at all. Sometimes that's good advice. Just kind of keep it to yourself. We're not supposed to rail. We're not supposed to. You know. Come after people. He says.

[21 : 06] Look. Give blessing instead. Verse 9. Again says. Not rendering evil for evil. Or blessing. Railing for railing. Contrary wise. Blessing.

Deliver. Repay. Whatever. And he says railing. Railing is the idea of reviling.

Slander. Be careful what you say to people. Be careful what you say about them. Listen to what Jesus said. Matthew chapter 5. Verse 44. He said.

But I say unto you. Love your enemies. Bless them that curse you. Do good to them that have you. I hate you. Pray for them that despitefully use you.

And persecute you. How do you respond when you get angry with someone? How do you. How do you handle that? We can cause more strife.

[22 : 01] By the things that we do. By the things that we say. He says. No. Hold back. Live peaceably. Proverbs 15.

Proverbs 15. Proverbs 15. 1. A soft answer turneth away wrath. Grievous words stir up anger. When you can come back with a soft answer. When you can come back with not answering them in the same way.

You know what a normal tendency is. Right? Somebody comes after you. What are you going to do? Both barrels are coming out. Right? We're just going to let them have it. He says no.

A soft answer. Turneth away wrath. Next time someone speaks evil of you. Try to remember. A soft answer. Sometimes we come after people.

And we just. Say whatever comes to our mind. Without any filters. Don't do that. Take the example of Job.

[23 : 02] Job. The Bible says. In Job chapter 1 verse 1. It says this. There was a man in the land of Uz. Whose name was Job. And that man was perfect. And upright.

And one that feared God. And eschewed evil. That sounds like. Something we should strive for. Something we should try to be like. It says.

He was perfect and upright. One that feared God. And eschewed evil. Even when. His wife came to him. After they had lost everything. And said. Just curse God and die.

Sometimes. Ladies. You can give the wrong advice. So can the men. Be careful of the things that you say. Then his friends came. And his friends accused him.

Of keeping. Secret sins. And doing things. And he didn't say a word to them. He thought it was better than probably going after them. Probably trying to set them straight.

[24 : 02] Just. Don't say anything. See when people come. And they accuse and things. Show compassion. Don't get involved in it. So the realm.

Everybody. Especially. Christians. The reach. Be careful of your words. And then the reward. Of compassion. The reward.

Of compassion. See. When we show compassion. It often goes unnoticed. People don't notice what we're doing. When we're showing compassion. Because we may not be saying anything.

That's how we're showing compassion. By not saying anything. But God always notices. God always notices. First of all. He knows our testimony. He knows our testimony.

Look at verse 12. He talks about the fact that the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous. God is looking out for us. God is watching over us. He's acquainted with everything that we do.

[25 : 01] Back in Hebrews. We were talking this morning. All things are naked and open under the eyes of him with whom we have to do. God sees it all. He notices your faithfulness.

He notices your restraint. He watches us. But he also hears us. His ears are open under their prayer. It says in verse 12.

God delights in hearing our prayers. In answering them. When we come before God in prayer. We can be confident that he's hearing us. Sometimes we question that.

But he says. I will answer. Matthew chapter 7 verse 7. He says. Ask and it shall be given to you. Seek and ye shall find. Knock and it shall be opened unto you.

I think that's the only verse I put there. For this. But let me read further. Verse 8. For everyone that asketh receiveth. And he that seeketh findeth. And to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

[26 : 01] For what man is there of you. Whom if his son ask bread. Will he give him a stone? Or if he has fish. Will he give him a serpent? If he then being evil.

If he then being evil. Know how to give good gifts. Unto your children. How much more will your father. Which is in heaven. Give good things to them that ask him. As parents.

We know how to give good gifts to our kids. As parents. We know how to. Give them the things that they need. And sometimes the things that they want. He says if you as a parent.

A sinner. Saved by grace. How can you. If you know how to give good gifts. How much more. Does God our father know how to give good gifts.

And take care of us. See our communication with him in prayer. He's going to hear. He's going to answer. Unless. Unless.

[27 : 03] He's limited by sin. And God's not limited by sin himself. It's because of our sin. Sometimes we put up walls. Because we've allowed sin into our lives. Make sure your life is clean.

Make sure the sin is confessed. Gotten rid of. So you can have that clear communication with God. Psalm 66. Verses 18 through 20. If I regard iniquity in my heart. The Lord will not hear me.

But. Verily. God hath heard me. And he hath. Attended to the voice of my prayer. Prayer. Blessed be God. Which hath not turned away my prayer. Nor his mercy.

From me. God hears us. He sees us. He judges. He answers. God is watching. He says look. I'm going to take care of you.

I'm going to hear. I'm going to answer. But sometimes we see things from a different viewpoint. We're like. Why do the wicked seem to go unpunished? Why do they always seem to get their way? Why do they always seem to have everything they need?

[28 : 07] Why not me? Why do they always? Notice what it says there in verse 12. The face of the Lord is against them. They do evil. He's against them to do evil.

He's against those who are wicked. He doesn't take pleasure in the things that they're doing. But I'll tell you what he does take pleasure in. Showing mercy.

Micah chapter 7 verses 18 and 19. Who is a God like unto thee that pardoneth iniquity and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage?

Who retaineth not his anger forever? Because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again. He will have compassion upon us. He will subdue our iniquities.

And he will cast all of their sins into the depths of the sea. God is going to take care of those who are evil. But he's giving them as much time to see what God has done for them.

[29 : 07] And how God is working in their life. And how God is working in their behalf. He wants to show mercy to them. He's slow to anger the Bible tells us. He wants to show because he has compassion.

Why did Jesus Christ come to this earth? To show compassion to us. So that we did not have to go to hell. But could go to heaven. Could have eternal life with him.

Nothing is ever out of God's control. Nothing is ever going to get past him. When people are mocking him and attacking him. He is going to take care of them.

He is going to judge them at the right time. In the right way. 2 Thessalonians 1. 6 and 7. Seeing it as a righteous thing with God. To recompense tribulation to them that trouble you.

And to you who are troubled. Rest with us. When the Lord Jesus shall be revealed. From heaven. With his mighty angels. There is a time of reckoning coming. But God is trying to give them as much time.

[30 : 11] To come to his mercy as possible. Those of us who follow him. We will see. His reward. We will see what he is going to do.

He has compassion upon us. But he also has compassion on the unsaved. He wants to see them saved. Second thing here. He rewards. Our faithfulness.

He rewards our faithfulness. When we show compassion. When we live the way he wants us to. When we have his mind. He is going to reward our faithfulness.

There are times. When our patience can be tested. There are times when our patience can. Almost come to an end. But do we trust God?

Galatians 6.9. Let us not be weary in well-doing. For in due season we shall reap if we faint not. Keep going. Keep doing it God's way.

[31 : 11] Keep showing compassion to those around you. Look at verse 14. Here in 1 Peter 3. But and if ye suffer for righteousness sake.

Happy are ye. And be not afraid of their terror. Neither be troubled. Sometimes we face things that we shouldn't. Sometimes we're going to go through things that we shouldn't. The society that we live in today.

Is becoming more and more and more ungodly. You're going to face things in the future. That you never thought about facing probably. Because of the way our society is going.

But he says you can be happy. In the midst of persecution. You can be happy. During those times. The word happy there means supremely blessed.

You can be well off. You can go knowing the fact that I am doing what God wants me to do. And I am following him. God's word tells us to never fear. Never be troubled.

[32 : 10] The faithful can take a stand. And do what's right. And God will reward us. Luke chapter 6. Verses 22 and 23. Blessed are ye when men shall hate you.

And when they shall separate you from their company. And shall reproach you. And cast out your name as evil. For the son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day.

And leap for joy. For behold your reward is great in heaven. For in the like manner did the fathers unto the prophets. The Israelites constantly were fighting against the prophets.

They were bringing God's word. And the Israelites were constantly fighting against them. But they were faithful to do it. You're going to face things. And people are going to give you a hard time for it. And they're going to say things about you for it.

He says keep on going. Happy are ye when you're doing what God wants you to do. When you're following him. Reminds me a story. Can we forgive?

[33 : 08] And can we have compassion? Corrie ten Moon was giving a talk at a church shortly after World War II. You know the story of her and her family.

She lost all of her family. She was the only survivor. She was in a camp for a number of years. One of them was Ravensbrook.

And as she was in that camp. All kinds of things took place. The guards were terrible to them. They faced all kinds of things. She's at this church speaking that one night.

And unbeknownst to her. Out in the audience. Is one of those former guards. And she talked about. How God had worked in her life. And how God had given her.

Compassion. How God had shown her to have a heart. For those people. Even those that were her enemies. After the meeting was over.

[34 : 09] The man stayed behind. To talk to her. And he walked up to her. And she recognized him. Knew who he was. And he put his hand up.

And she said. In that moment. I had to. Think. Do I really believe what I just said? Am I able to forgive this man?

I know some things this man did. Am I able to forgive this man? And she reached out. Took his hand. Shook it. And these words were said.

Yes. The forgiveness of Jesus. Is a wonderful thing. I'm so glad. That we can both experience it. Today. To have compassion. To have compassion on someone who had treated her so badly.

But for him to understand that he had treated her badly. And was basically coming to ask her forgiveness. Because he now understood. What Jesus had done for him. You know.

[35 : 12] There's going to be people who will wrong us. There's going to be people. That. We just. He says. Look. Have compassion. Have compassion. Have blessing on them.

See their need. Help them. Whatever they need. Be willing to go. That extra mile.
Demonstrate compassion.

In their lives. Look at verse 15. Verse 15 says. But sanctify the Lord God in your heart. Be ready always. To give an answer. To every man. That asketh you. A reason for the hope.

That is in you. With meekness. And fear. Wouldn't it be wonderful. If we had a testimony. Of compassion. If we had a testimony.

Of caring. If people would come up to us. And say. What makes you different. Than the rest. And you'd have the answer.

[36 : 08] For that question. Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ. Makes me. Different. His grace. His mercy. His mercy. Shown to me.

Makes me able to show. Grace and mercy. To those around me. Have compassion. One for another. All of us here.

Have compassion. One for another. It's not been a salvation message. This has been a message for Christians. If you're here this morning.

You do not know. Jesus Christ is your savior. Here. Please come talk to me. I'd love to take the word of God. And show you how you can know. One hundred percent. That Jesus Christ. Came to die for you.

To give his life. So you might have. An abundant life. Here on earth. And you might have. A home in heaven. In eternity. Come talk to me. I'd be glad to take the word of God.

[37 : 03] And show you. For those of you who are Christians. That are here this morning. What we've just talked about. Turn to page 513. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you.