

# ***Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles***

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August 21, 2025 – Kindness that Leads to Repentance – Angelo Panopio

## **DAY 4 – COMPASSION OVER JUDGMENT**

Romans 2:1 NKJV

“Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.”

Judgment is easy, compassion is costly. When we look at the failures or shortcomings of others, it can be tempting to feel superior. Thoughts like, "Why do they keep making the same mistakes?" or "Why aren't they doing more?" can easily creep in our minds.

But Paul reminds us — we too are guilty, and only mercy keeps us standing. We cannot measure one's output with our own, so we are to respond with compassion because it reminds us that we rarely see the whole picture. We don't always know the burdens others carry, the seasons they're in, or the quiet ways they live out faithfully for God.

It doesn't mean that we are to ignore any compromise or coddle someone in their sin, but it does mean that we are to approach them with truth and grace, seeking their restoration rather than their ruin. Galatians 6:1 NKJV says, “If a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness.” Gentleness, not harshness, reflects the heart of Christ.

For as James reminds us in James 2:13 NKJV, “Mercy triumphs over judgment.” God’s kingdom is advanced not through condemnation but through compassion. When we extend mercy to others, we reveal the mercy we ourselves have received.

Life Application:

- Today, resist the urge to criticize harshly by remembering how patient God has been with you.
- In someone's shortcoming, look for a small way to show kindness—through a gentle word, a listening ear, or quiet support—so that your response reflects Christ’s compassion.