

MICAH 6 : 8

LOVE MERCY

BIBLE STUDY



STARTER:

As we walk with God and understand what it means to be transformed by him, we will more clearly understand that by 'loving mercy' we are following the example set by our merciful God.

Loving mercy is in some ways stronger than acting justly, because we can act justly without showing mercy - whereas by loving mercy, we are acting justly.

PRAY

Pray as you start that you understand God's kindness in a way that means you see others in the way he does.



As last week, we will be looking at three places where Jesus talked about mercy and consider what we can learn about this character trait of God by doing so.

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Read: Luke 10 : 25 - 37 - the parable of the Good Samaritan

- As in previous studies, we can see that Jesus is encouraging the expert in the law to understand not just the law, but the spirit of the law (**v. 26**). Why did the teacher in the law ask his question in **verse 29** and what do you think he thought of Jesus' reply?
- What do we learn about God's priorities from the story of the Good Samaritan?
- Imagine this is the first time you have heard this story as you sit in the crowd listening to Jesus answer the expert in the law. Where would you sense God challenging you?



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Read: John 8 :1 - 11 - the woman caught in adultery

- Look at **verse 3**. Why is it once again striking who is pointing the finger?
- Close your eyes and imagine the scene. Where is the lack of kindness particularly striking?
- From his answer in **verse 7**, Jesus shows us once again how important it is to understand the God we worship as we seek to obey his law. Looking at Jesus' final words to the woman in **verse 11**, how do we understand what God wants from those who come to him for mercy?



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Read: Matthew 18 : 21-35 - the parable of the unmerciful servant

- Who do you think Jesus wants us to identify with in this story?
- If this story is told to show what forgiveness looks like in God's kingdom, it implies that we owe God a great debt. What do you think this debt is, and how does God show mercy in the face of it?
- God's mercy is shown clearly in his forgiveness of us when we least deserve it. Why do you think Jesus wants us to forgive others for the wrongs they have done to us?
- Where are some situations where God might ask you to show forgiveness and mercy? What might this look like and how might it transform a situation?



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GOING DEEPER

Read Matthew 7 : 1-5

How do these verses help us to learn how to live mercifully?

What difference might it make to our church if we seek to avoid jumping quickly to conclusions about someone but rather 'love mercy'?



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LISTEN | PRAY

LISTEN

MERCY ROAD
Worship Central



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyc0jpBI9b0>

PRAY

**Look at the beautiful
words of 1 Peter 1 : 3**

Taking this verse one clause at a time, reflect as a group what it means to live in the light of this living hope that is ours because of God's mercy.

Turn your thoughts to praise.