

MISSION OF MERCY

Mercy – Part 8

“You will be my witnesses”- Jesus, Acts 1:8 (NIV)

KEY TRUTH #1: In an unkind world, our greatest example of Christ is **SHOWING MERCY**.

“Show mercy to others, just as your Father shows mercy to you!” Luke 6:36 (NCV)

How can I be more merciful?

1. NOTICE people’s needs.

“Look out for one another’s interests, not just for your own.” Philippians 2:4 (TEV)

“Jesus looked at him and loved him.” Mark 10:21 (NIV)

2. Don’t be OFFENDED by their sin.

“Show mercy to those whose faith is wavering. Rescue others by snatching them from the flames of judgment. There are still others to whom you need to show mercy but be careful that you aren’t contaminated by their sins.” Jude 1:22-23 (NLT)

“Most importantly, love each other deeply. Love has a way of not looking at others’ sins.” 1 Peter 4:8 (ICB)

“Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love.” Ephesians 4:2b (LB)

KEY TRUTH #2: Don’t **EXPECT** people who aren’t Christ Followers to **ACT** like Christ followers.

“That night Matthew invited Jesus to dinner with his fellow tax collectors and many other ‘notorious sinners.’ The Pharisees were indignant. ‘Why does your Teacher eat with such scum?’ they asked. When Jesus heard this, he said, ‘Healthy people don’t need a doctor—sick people do!’ Then he added, ‘Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: “I want you to be merciful, not offer sacrifices!” For I’ve come to invite sinners to me, not those who think they are righteous.’” Matthew 9:10-13 (NLT)

3. Choose your words CAREFULLY.

“When you talk, you should always be kind and pleasant, so you will be able to answer everyone in the way you should.” Colossians 4:6 (NCV)

“The wisdom that comes from heaven is pure, peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. Wisdom is full of mercy . . .” James 3:17 (NLT)

4. Value helping people take STEPS to know Christ, over keeping RULES.

“What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things. Matthew 23:23 (NLT)

BEING ON MISSION WITH MERCY MEANS SHOWING IT TO...

1. People in CRISIS

“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2 (NIV)

2. People with unmet NEEDS

“Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, ‘How can I help?’ That’s exactly what Jesus did. He didn’t make it easy for himself by avoiding people’s troubles, but he waded right in and helped out.” Romans 15:2-3 (MSG)

3. People who are GRIEVING.

“God comforts us in our troubles, so that we can comfort others who are in trouble with the same comfort that we ourselves received from God.” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

4. People who need **FRIENDS**.

"Look for opportunities to be hospitable." Romans 12:13b (NJB)

5. People who need a **SECOND** chance.

*"When people sin, you should forgive and comfort them, so they won't give up in despair."
2 Corinthians 2:7 (CEV)*

6. People who are **RUDE**.

"Don't repay evil for evil. Never retaliate when people insult you or say unkind things about you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God wants you to do, and he will bless you for it!" 1 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

KEY TRUTH #3: Mercy will cost you **TIME**.

"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them." Hebrews 6:10 (NIV)