



July 13, 2025



Day 1: Mercy Triumphs Over Justice

There is a deep battle within every heart between the desire for justice and the call to mercy, but God's way is to let mercy win, even when we have been deeply wronged. When Joseph faced his brothers who had betrayed him, he had every reason to seek revenge, yet he chose the harder path of forgiveness and reconciliation. This act was not a denial of the pain he endured, but a surrender to God's greater purpose, trusting that what others meant for evil, God could use for good. Mercy, not revenge, is the heartbeat of God, and when we allow it to rule in our lives, we reflect His character and open the door to healing and restoration.

Genesis 50:19-21 (ESV)

But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Reflection: Who is someone you struggle to forgive, and what would it look like to let mercy, rather than justice or revenge, guide your next interaction with them?

Day 2: Serving in Brokenness

Even in the midst of betrayal and hardship, God calls us to be a blessing wherever we are planted, refusing to let bitterness immobilize us. Joseph, though wronged and enslaved, chose to serve faithfully in Potiphar's house and later in prison, allowing God's favor to rest on him and transform his circumstances. When we focus on serving others and meeting the needs in front of us, rather than dwelling on our pain, we invite God's blessing and begin to see our own hearts healed. The humble acts of service, done in the face of adversity, are the very soil in which God grows His mercy and joy within us.

Colossians 3:23-24 (ESV)

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Reflection: In what difficult place or relationship can you choose to serve today, trusting God to use your faithfulness for His good purposes?

Day 3: Feeding the Good Wolf

Within each of us is a daily battle between the impulses of kindness and bitterness, and the one that grows is the one we feed. Like the story of the two wolves, Joseph's life shows that by choosing to focus on what is good, right, and true, and by seeking to be a blessing, we strengthen the spirit of Christ within us. This is not always easy—it requires intentionality, prayer, and a willingness to let go of negative narratives. As we train ourselves in humble acts of service and gratitude, we find that joy and mercy begin to take root, transforming not only our own hearts but the lives of those around us.

Philippians 4:8-9 (ESV)

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure,

whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Reflection: What negative thought or narrative do you need to surrender to God today, and what specific “good wolf” action can you take to feed kindness and hope instead?

Day 4: Jesus’ Example of Humble Service

Jesus, even in the face of betrayal and suffering, chose to serve and forgive, showing us the path to true greatness and blessing. By washing His disciples’ feet and forgiving those who crucified Him, He demonstrated that humble service and mercy are at the core of God’s kingdom. When we follow His example—serving others, forgiving those who hurt us, and seeking to bring heaven to earth in small, daily ways—we are transformed and experience the joy and favor of God. This is not an easy path, but it is the way of Christ, and it leads to life and freedom for us and those we serve.

John 13:14-17 (ESV)

If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

Reflection: Whose “feet” can you wash today—what is one humble, perhaps unnoticed act of service you can offer to someone in your life?

Day 5: Trusting God to Transform Our Pain

When we bring our hurts, betrayals, and negative experiences to God, trusting Him with our pain, He is able to transform them into blessings and use them for good. Joseph’s story and the promise of Scripture remind us that God works all things together for good for those who love Him. As we lay down our desire for revenge and surrender our wounds at the foot of the cross, God gives us the grace to pick up new assignments—acts of love, service, and hope. In this way, we become people who bear good fruit, full of joy, patience, and kindness, and we witness God’s redemptive power at work in and through us.

Romans 8:28 (ESV)

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Reflection: What pain or disappointment do you need to lay at the foot of the cross today, trusting God to transform it into a blessing for you and others?