



## MERCY FORGIVES

Mercy – Part 4  
Pastor Chris Collins

### WE LIVE IN AN AGE OF PERPETUAL OFFENSE

**If you are on a continuous search to be offended...  
You will always find what you're looking for.**

- **BEING** offended is inevitable... but **LIVING** offended is a choice.

*Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud; instead, associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own estimation. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Give careful thought to do what is honorable in everyone's eyes. If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. (Romans 12:14-18 CSB)*

**to bless:** eulogeo (yoo-log-eh'-o) to speak well of, to wish the best for someone.

- **We are to be a CONTINUAL blessing to those who are a CONTINUAL problem.**

*Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship. (Romans 12:1 CSB)*

**MERCY:** undeserved forgiveness; compassion shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish

*Forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. (Matthew 6:12 NCV)*

## MERCY MEANS GOD FORGIVES ME

### 1. GOD WANTS TO FORGIVE ME.

*But you are a God who forgives; you are gracious and loving, slow to be angry.*  
(Nehemiah 9:17b GNT)

### 2. GOD FREELY FORGIVES ME.

*For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.* (Romans 3:23-24 NCV/NLT)

### 3. GOD IMMEDIATELY FORGIVES ME.

*And Jesus replied, "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise."*  
(Luke 23:43 NLT)

### 4. GOD COMPLETELY FORGIVES ME.

*You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins.*  
(Colossians 2:13 NLT)

## MERCY MEANS I FORGIVE OTHERS

- JESUS DIDN'T TELL US TO BE RIGHT. HE TOLD US TO BE LOVING.

*Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.* (Ephesians 4:2 NLT)

- YOUR LIFE IS TOO SHORT AND YOUR CALLING IS TOO GREAT TO BE OFFENDED BY SOMETHING SMALL.

*A person's insight gives him patience, and his virtue is to overlook an offense.*  
(Proverbs 19:11 CSB)

- LOVE DOESN'T SEEK TO WIN THE ARGUMENT. LOVE SEEKS TO PROTECT THE RELATIONSHIP.

*If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.*  
(Romans 12:18 CSB)

**IT TAKES TWO TO RECONCILE... BUT IT ONLY TAKES ONE TO FORGIVE**