

## Mercy

### Luke 7:36-50

#### Prodigal Story

- Just imagine how the prodigal treated people
- Just think about how the older brother, who is self-righteous, treated people

I am merciful because I have been shown mercy.

### Matthew 20:30-34

### Luke 18:19-14

### Ephesians 4:1-3

### Micah 6:8

Often Christians aren't thought of as merciful, but what people felt when they were with Jesus, despite their sin and brokenness, was mercy.

With each cultural issue, no matter what your position, do you have mercy?

Mercy is not what we do, it is who we are. If we compromise our character to win a short-term cultural battle, we are going to lose the war. You cannot vote your way out of this. What we need is another great awakening.

Historically speaking, every great civilization rose to power and fell apart in 240 years. America is 245 years old. None of those empires were defeated by external enemies, they all rotted from within.

Jesus understands that. Jesus is trying to bring change from the inside out.

Look at Jesus on the cross:

Luke 23:34, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they are doing."

Matthew 27:54, "This man truly was the Son of God."

Romans 5:5- God produce your life in me!

Are we drawing people to Jesus or pushing people away from Him?

**Galatians 5:22**, "But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control."

Does this describe how we relate to our world? Does it describe how we relate to each other?

What do we do?

- Humble ourselves

- Mourn the condition of our hearts, the condition of the church, and our world
- Surrender, we will do it Your way
- Dependence, produce Your life in us, we cannot do it without You
- Mercy, help us to respond with mercy not anger, judgement, and rejection

We all need mercy.

**Galatians 6:7**, We will harvest what we plant!

**Prayer of Mercy:** Dear Jesus, you have been so merciful to me. You loved me, and embraced me despite my sin and rebellion. Your love has and is changing my life. Jesus, help me to love others the way you have loved me. Holy Spirit, I ask you to produce your life in me. Increase my love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control for a world that is fallen, broken, angry, immoral, and violent. Only your love can change our world. Help this world to experience your love through me.