



Compassion *in action*

“Not Getting What You Deserve” | Elder Mike | November 30, 2025

ROADMAP for TODAY's MESSAGE

- Jesus is extremely compassionate
- compassion leads to action
- Jesus wants us to grow in compassion

Matthew 5:7 (ESV)

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

Speaker: The Word of the LORD.

Congregation: Amen! Praise be to God.

Mercy: A disposition to forgive, pity, or be kind.

A refraining from harming or punishing offenders, enemies, persons in one's power, etc.; kindness in excess of what may be expected or demanded by fairness; forbearance and compassion.

Webster's New World Dictionary

Matthew 18:23-28 (The Voice)

Jesus: ²³ If you want to understand the kingdom of heaven, think about a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ Just as the king began to get his accounts in order, his assistants called his attention to a slave who owed a huge sum to him—what a laborer might make in 500 lifetimes.

Matthew 18:23-28 (The Voice)

²⁵ The slave, *maybe an embezzler*, had no way to make restitution, so the king ordered that he, his wife, their children, and everything the family owned be sold *on the auction block*; the proceeds from the slave sale would go toward paying back the king. ²⁶ Upon hearing this judgment, the slave fell down, prostrated himself before the king, and begged for mercy: "Have mercy on me, and I will somehow pay you everything."

Matthew 18:23-28 (The Voice)

²⁷ The king was moved by the pathos of the situation, so indeed he took pity on the servant, told him to stand up, and then forgave the debt.

Mercy: not getting what we deserve

Our King, Jesus, is extremely compassionate

Psalm 103:8 (ESV)

⁸ The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Psalm 103:8 (ESV)

⁸ The LORD is **merciful** and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Psalm 103:8 (LEB)

⁸ Yahweh is **compassionate** and gracious, *slow to anger* and abundant in loyal love.

compassion leads to action

Psalm 103:8 (LEB)

⁸ Yahweh *is* **compassionate** and gracious, *slow to anger* and abundant in loyal love.

Psalm 103:8 (WYC)

⁸ The LORD *is* a **merciful doer**, and **merciful in will** (The Lord *is* a **giver of love**, and a **giver of mercy**); long abiding, and much merciful.

Compassion in Action

Luke 15:20-24 (ESV)

²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

Compassion in Action

Luke 15:20-24 (ESV)

²² But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

As we have received mercy we did not deserve,
God wants us to give mercy others do not deserve

Our King, Jesus, wants us to be compassionate

Compassion in Action

Matthew 9:36-38 (ESV)

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, **he had compassion** for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then **he said to his disciples**, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore **pray earnestly** to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Compassion in Action

Mark 6:34-38 (ESV)

³⁴ When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and **he had compassion** on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And **he began to teach them many things.** ³⁵ And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

Compassion in Action

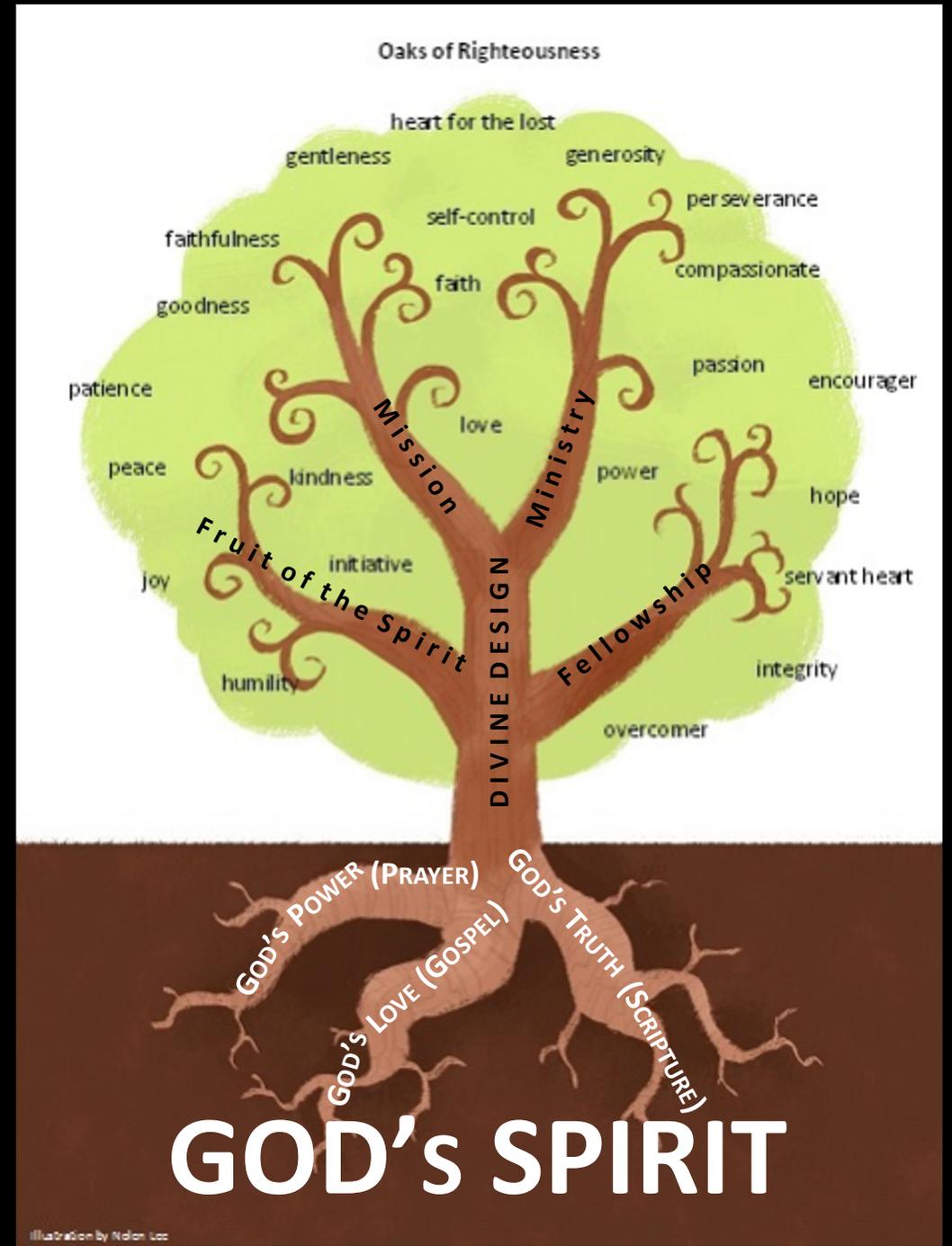
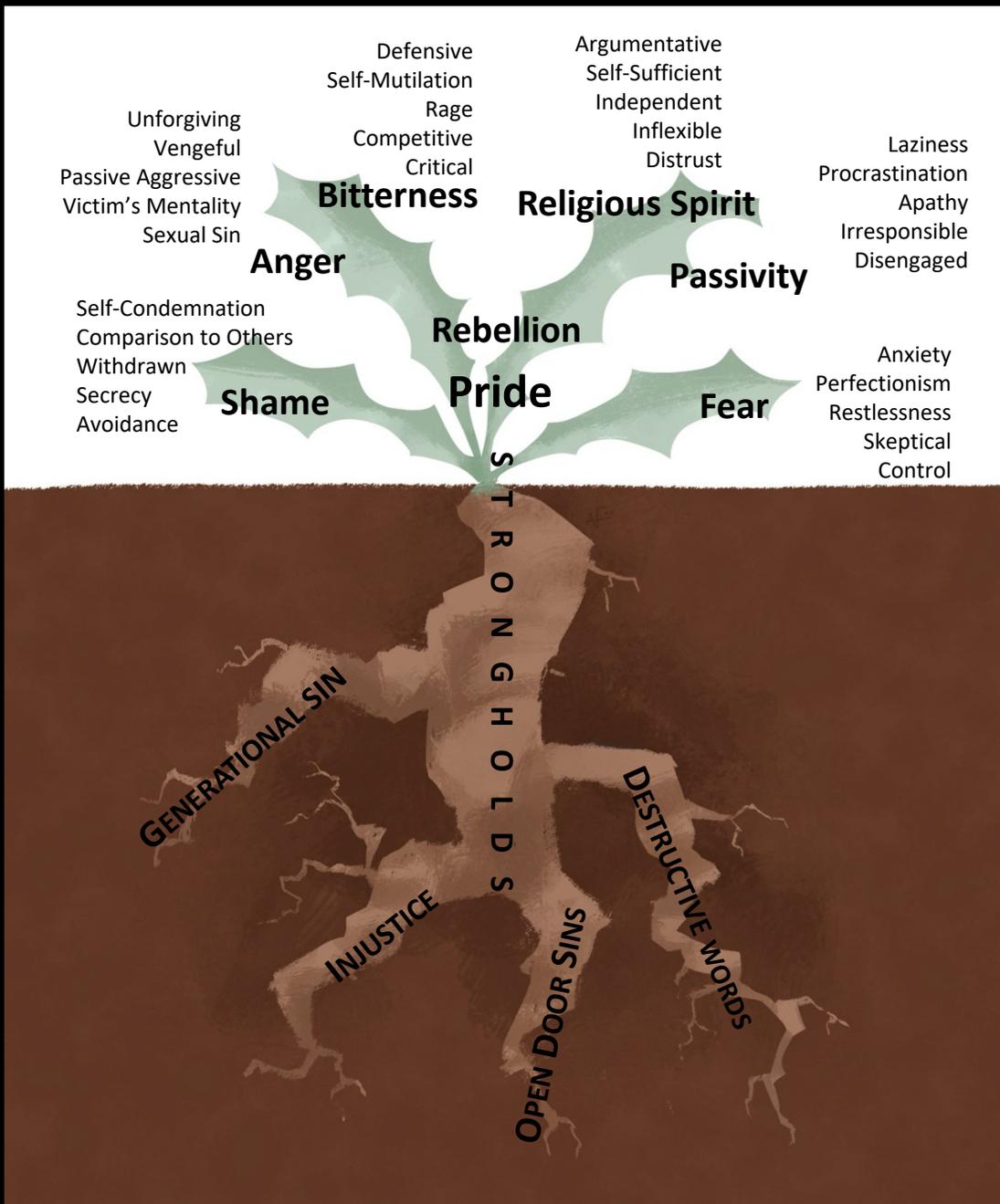
Mark 6:34-38 (ESV)

³⁷ But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" ³⁸ And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish."

Compassion in Action

Matthew 15:32-34 (ESV)

³² Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion on the crowd because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. And I am unwilling to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way." ³³ And the disciples said to him, "Where are we to get enough bread in such a desolate place to feed so great a crowd?" ³⁴ And Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven, and a few small fish."



barriers to growing in compassion

- fear
- doubt
- busy-ness
- misaligned priorities
- inaccurate cost assessment

Luke 10:29-37 (ESV)

²⁹ But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead.

Luke 10:29-37 (ESV)

³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion.

Luke 10:29-37 (ESV)

³⁴ He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him.

³⁵ And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.'

Luke 10:29-37 (ESV)

³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

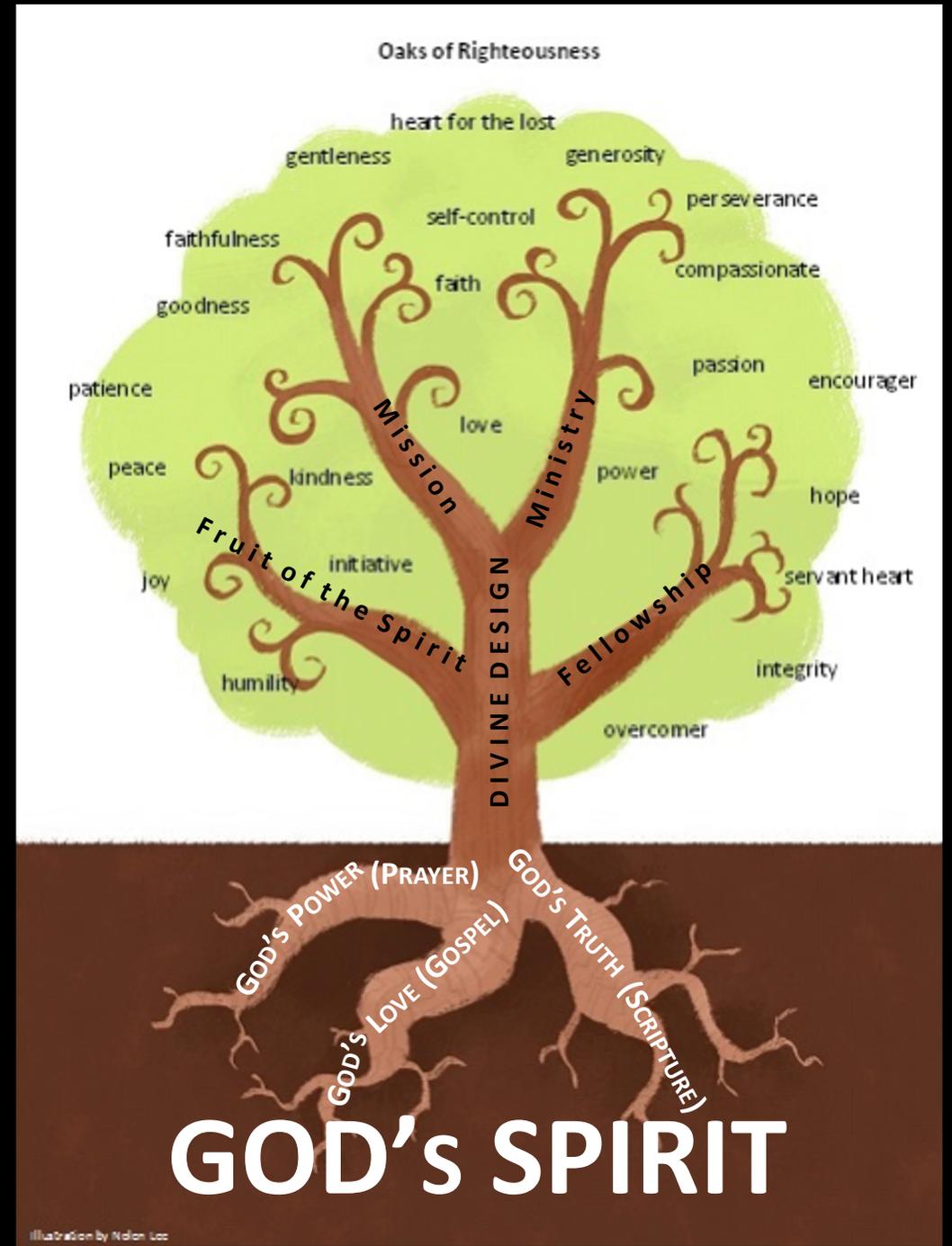
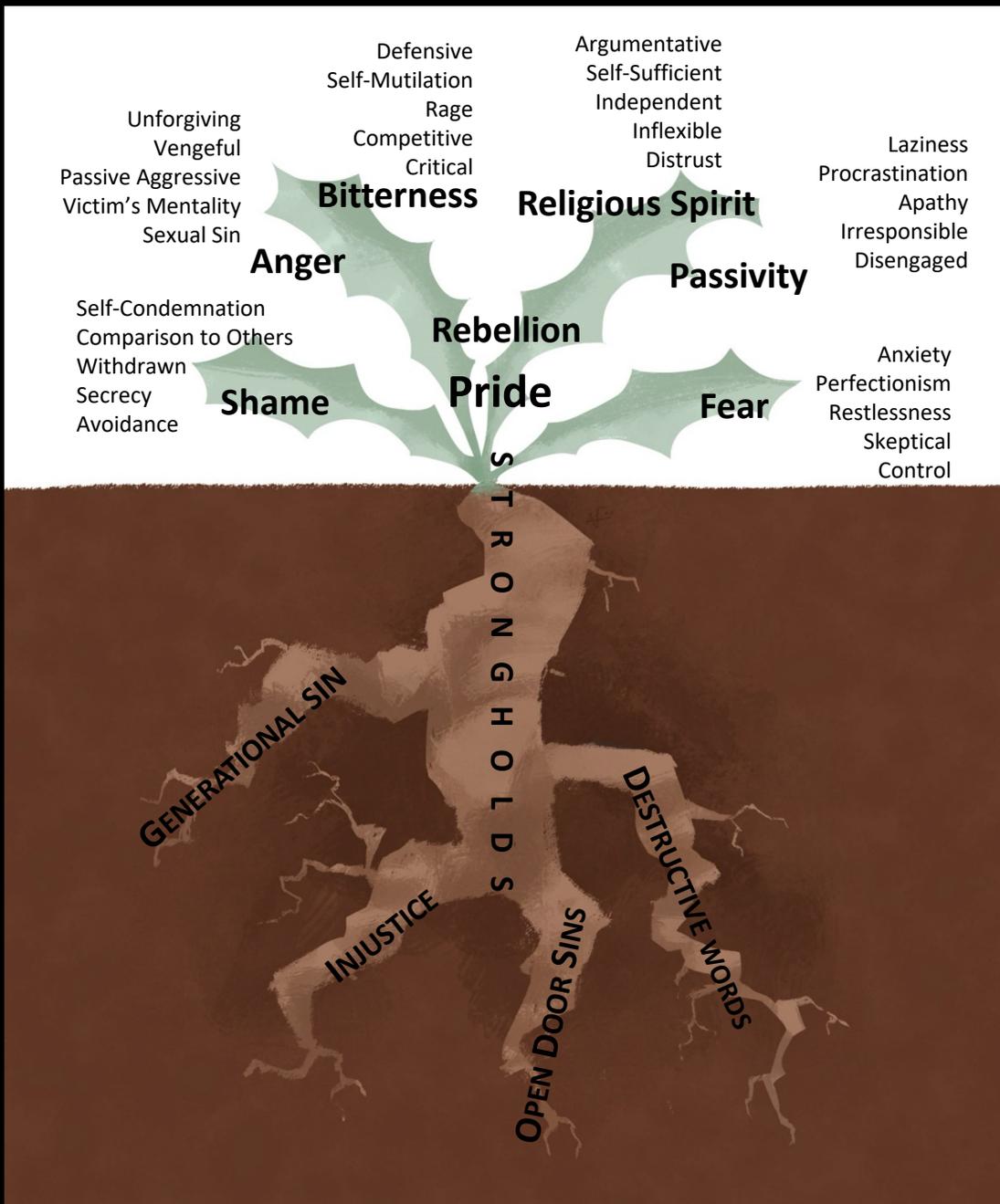
ways to grow in compassion

1. engage with Jesus's Spirit by asking Him
 - to help you realize the mercy you've received
 - to grow your heart for the least & the lost
2. recognize decision points as they arise
 - will you follow flesh or follow Jesus's Spirit
3. take a step
 - learn, join a meeting, help out, give

Moment of Reflection

Take a moment to reflect with Holy Spirit on what you heard today.

Ask Holy Spirit how He wants you to continue to grow in having His heart of compassion and in how that is meant to be lived out.



growing in compassion leads to:

- greater joy
- greater purpose
- greater relationship
- greater Christlikeness
- greater experience of God by our world

Mercy: compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm

Oxford Languages