

GOD IS _____ HOPE WHEN YOU'RE HURTING

I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. ²⁰I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. ²¹Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope ... Lamentations 3:19-21 NIV

The faithful love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease. ²³Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning. Lamentations 3:22-23 NLT

- **Justice:** when you get what you deserve
- **Grace:** when you get what you don't deserve
- **Mercy:** when you don't get what you do deserve

Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. ²You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil ... ³All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else. Ephesians 2:1-3 NLT

*But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, ⁵that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. ...
Ephesians 2:4-5 NLT*

“... Let us fall into the hands of the LORD, for his mercy is great; but do not let me fall into human hands.”

2 Samuel 24:14 NIV

... Mercy triumphs over judgment. James 2:13 NIV

... 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

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TALK IT OVER

Read **2 Samuel 24:14**. Talk about how it feels to fall into God’s hands instead of the hands of people.

How could God’s mercy bring you hope when you’re hurting?

Share about a time when you didn’t get what you deserved—when you received mercy. How did that experience impact your faith?