

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

What/Where is the most terrifying height you have ever been on?

- 1. Pastor Tom said that "God desires to forgive you", and does so "unreservedly", "instantaneously", and "totally". Which of these truths about God's forgiveness is most amazing to you and why?
- Pastor Tom said, "we need to understand that God's mercy is not a one-way street (God towards us)." Read Matthew 5:7, Proverbs 11:25, Matthew 6:14; 18:33, James 2:13, Micah 6:8, and James 3:17. What is God's expectation of those to whom He has shown mercy and how well have you carried it out?
- Read Ephesians 4:32 and Colossians 3:12-14 in the New Living Translation. What key words do you find in both passages and how do they relate to God's forgiveness and how we are to forgive?
- 4. Pastor Tom emphasized that forgiveness needs to be unconditional, but trusting again must be earned. In your experience, what is the difference between forgiving someone and trusting them again and how has that played out in your life?
- Pastor Tom reminded us that "Unforgiveness creates an undertow in your life that takes you places you don't want to go", and that rather than "repaying, replaying it, resentment, or revenge" we need to "release it to God" by choosing to forgive (Colossians 3:13). Tell of a time when you felt release and healing when you chose to forgive.

PERSONAL GUIDE

Day One: Matthew 8; Psalm 97

Day Two: Leviticus 7; Proverbs 4

Day Three: 1 Corinthians 3; 2 Samuel 17

Day Four: 1 Peter 5; Jeremiah 31

Day Five: Job 35; Acts 13

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.





"Failure Doesn't Have to Have the Last Word"

- **Part 2** -

Nov 24, 2024 • Pastor Tom Lundeen

MY**RC.**CHURCH



"Failure Doesn't Have to Have the Last Word" - Part 2

Nov 24, 2024 Pastor Tom Lundeen

God's mercy impacts aspect of our lives and every single one of our relationships.
While mercy is one of the attributes of God, it's not always
the easiest thing to really understand and fully get our arms around.
the easiest thing to really anderstand and rally get our arms around.
We desperately want it for, but
 but we are less likely to want to see others receive it, either from or even from God.
God's mercy shows us that:
1. Jesus Doesn't Give Up on Us
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2. God Forgives Me
A. He desires to forgive me.
B. He unreservedly forgives me.
C. He instantaneously forgives me.
D. He totally forgives me.
Today we need to understand that God's mercy is not a one way street
(towards us), but it also needs to be something that flows from
God to our and then to others who also need mercy.
Note Matthew 5:7; Proverbs 11:25; Matthew 6:14, 18:33; James 2:13;
Micah 6:8; James 3:17
So if mercy means that I forgive others, too, how can that happen?

•	giveness is: Not	we cannot try to make oth	ners
	•	iveness or even ask it from us. Also, give others in the long run (note Ep	
3.		forgive and forget 8:12; 2 Timothy 4:14-15).	a Bible
		trust, unlike forgiveness, is rust takes time and evidence of	
D.	by not	it to God (note Colossians 3:13b) repaying, not replaying it, resentme es an in your li	ent, or revenge
	it into a	want to go. Holding onto a hurt ev . Holding onto bitterness makes you the person you're bitter towards. Fo	u start to
	offer the gift of grace.	/setting free	
m	ı I welcoming God	's mercy into my life?	
	• The	_ work of mercy is forgiveness. ness isn't about us; it's about God a	

Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

App: Message Notes/Connect Card Or: MYRC.LINK/CONNECT





"Failure Doesn't Have to Have the Last Word" - Part 2

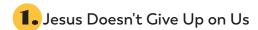
Nov 24, 2024 Pastor Tom Lundeen

God's mercy impacts every aspect of our lives and every single one of our relationships.

While mercy is one of the primary attributes of God, it's not always the easiest thing to really understand and fully get our arms around.

- We desperately want it for <u>ourselves</u>, but...
- ...but we are less likely to want to see others receive it, either from us or even from God.

God's mercy shows us that:



2. God Forgives Me

- He desires to forgive me.
- He unreservedly forgives me.
- He instantaneously forgives me.
- He totally forgives me.

Today we need to understand that God's mercy is not a one way street (God towards us), but it also needs to be something that flows from God to our heart and then to others who also need mercy.

Note Matthew 5:7; Proverbs 11:25; Matthew 6:14, 18:33; James 2:13; Micah 6:8: James 3:17

So if mercy means that I forgive others, too, how can that happen?



3. I Forgive Others

Forgiveness is:

- A. Not conditional we cannot try to make others earn our forgiveness or even ask it from us. Also, guilt will not help us to forgive others in the long run (note Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:12-14).
- B. Not <u>forgetting</u> forgive and forget <u>isn't</u> a Bible verse (note **Hebrews** 8:12; 2 Timothy 4:14-15).
- C. Not <u>trusting</u> trust, unlike forgiveness, is <u>earned</u>. Trust takes time and evidence of change.
- D. Releasing it to God (note **Colossians 3:13b**) we start to heal by not repaying, not replaying it, resentment, or revenge. Unforgiveness creates an <u>undertow</u> in your life that takes you places you don't want to go. Holding onto a hurt eventually turns it into a hate. Holding onto bitterness makes you start to resemble the person you're bitter towards. Forgiveness = to offer the gift of grace...<u>releasing</u>/setting free.

Am I welcoming God's mercy into my life?

- The <u>primary</u> work of mercy is forgiveness.
- Mercy and forgiveness isn't about us; it's about God and what He's done.

