



MERCY...

July 9, 2017

Start with this...

Who in the group has been pulled over by a police officer the **most**? Who has gotten **out** of the most tickets?
Who has **gotten** the most tickets? Has anyone **NEVER** been pulled over?

To be merciful is to show forgiveness and compassion to those in need.

Jesus frequently spoke of this trait. In the Lord's Prayer, He says, "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" ([Matthew 6:12](#)).

In [Matthew 9:13](#) Jesus instructs the Pharisees, "Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

What do you think these two verses really mean? (ask the group)

God's Definition of MERCY

God's MERCY is the withholding of a just punishment; it's His compassion on the miserable.

The psalmist writes, "Praise be to the LORD, for he has heard my cry for mercy" ([Psalm 28:6](#)).

Jesus Himself often showed mercy, as we see in His healing of the man freed from demons: "Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how He has had mercy on you" ([Mark 5:19](#)).

Share some moments when God has shown you His MERCY

Maybe it was by providing for you. Protecting you. Delivering you. Healing you.
All when you didn't deserve it.

We have received God's mercy!!!

[Romans 11:30](#) "You who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy."

Paul shared that his ministry was given to him by God's mercy ([2 Corinthians 4:1](#)). He also saw his salvation as an act of God's mercy: "I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief" ([1 Timothy 1:13](#)).

Our salvation is also called an act of God's mercy: "He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy" ([Titus 3:5](#)).

As Peter expressed it, "In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" ([1 Peter 1:3](#)).

Who is someone you can show MERCY to this week?