

”Blessed are the merciful...”



To the leader:

Open your group in prayer, and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the provided questions in the notes, or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions at the end of the page.

On Sunday, Pastor Nick continued our series on the greatest sermon ever preached by talking about mercy. We live in a society that places a huge emphasis on getting what you deserve. However, this black and white way of thinking suddenly turns grey when it involves us or someone in our circle. Jesus calls us to be full of mercy and He is the perfect example of correctly balancing justice and mercy. We learned directly from Jesus’ words how to be more merciful: Remember you need mercy, recognize they (others) need mercy and respond with mercy no matter what.

The world says, “Happy are you when you get mercy and others get justice.”

- ◆ What are some examples of this in our society today?
- ◆ What kind of scenarios cause you to have a “no mercy” kind of mentality?

Let’s review the points from the message Sunday:

1. Remember you need mercy
 - ◆ What would the deserved outcome be if Jesus didn’t show us mercy?
 - ◆ What should the relationship be between our interactions with people and the compassion and mercy Jesus showed us?

2. Recognize they need mercy
 - ◆ What is meant in Matthew 9:13 when Jesus says, “I desire mercy, not sacrifice”?
 - ◆ What are some things that have distracted you from taking advantage of merciful moments?
3. Respond with mercy no matter what
 - ◆ In what way should justice and mercy work in harmony with one another?
 - ◆ What are some of the possible fruits or benefits from mercy over strict justice?

Now what?

- ◆ Where would you be without God’s mercy?
- ◆ What excuses do you give to ignore merciful moments?
- ◆ What one step can I take to me more merciful?

Three Essential Questions

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you’ve learned today?*