

Matters of the Heart

A Merciful Heart

Matthew 20:29-34

Mercy goes beyond compassion (Mt. 20:30-31, 34)

Catching Up...


1. Aligned heart
2. Pure heart
3. Worshipping heart
4. Discerning heart
5. Content heart

Jesus: the Merciful

"His whole life was a mission of mercy... His entire ministry is summed up as going around the land and 'doing good.'"
(B. B. Warfield)

Dig Deeper

Micah 6:8
Matthew 5:7
Matthew 8:1-3
Matthew 9:27-34
Matthew 12:7
Luke 6:36
Luke 10:25-37



Heart Exercise: Who in your life needs a merciful touch this week? How will you demonstrate a merciful heart?

A Merciful Heart (Matthew 20:29-34)

Mercy begins in God (Mt. 20:30; II Cor. 1:3; Eph. 2:4).

{mer-cy (noun) \ 'mər-sē\ : not getting what you deserve}

Mercy is promised as a reward (Mt. 5:7).

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

LifeGroup Questions - Doing Life Together

Week of May 28-June 3, 2017

Matters of the Heart

A Merciful Heart

Sermons can be viewed online at creeksideeg.com/sermon

Questions are based on the NIV translation of the Bible

PRAYER

Begin your time together by thanking God for the life of Christ which shows us the perfect example of mercy-motivated ministry.

MY STORY

Describe a time when someone showed compassion or mercy toward you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. What from the message gave you new insight into a "merciful heart"?
2. One definition of compassion is "a sympathetic awareness of the distress of others, and a sincere desire to alleviate it" while mercy is defined as "compassionate treatment of those in distress." Put these definitions in your own words to understand their relationship to one another.
3. For each of the passages below answer the following questions:
 - What was the need of the people?
 - Who met the need, and how was it met?
 - How was compassion or mercy demonstrated?
 - **Mark 6:32-44**
 - **Matthew 8:1-3**
 - **Matthew 20:29-34**

4. In **Matthew 5:7** and **Luke 6:36**, what are the motivating factors for us to show mercy to others?

5. Describe a time when you received mercy. How did that change the way you lived or treated others?

DIGGING EVEN DEEPER

6. Read **James 5:11**. What does it teach about the connection between any suffering we may go through, and the Lord's compassion and mercy?

TAKING IT HOME

7. What does **2 Corinthians 5:14-15** indicate about what is to be the motivating factor in our lives?
8. Memorize **2 Corinthians 5:14-15** then write it out in the space below.
9. When have you been moved with compassion to act in mercy? Explain.
10. What is one way you need to extend mercy this week based on what you have learned?

PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for the needs of your group and others in your sphere of influence. Ask God to give you a merciful heart.