



Sermon Discussion Guide

“BEING AN AGENT OF GOD’S MERCY”
(The Miracle of Mercy – Part 4)
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Icebreaker: What is your favorite Christian holiday? Why?

THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE.

OUR DESIRE IS THAT YOU WOULD USE THIS “GUIDE” TO LEAD YOU INTO DEEPER PERSONAL STUDY.

“But you will receive power when The Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

“Be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.” (Luke 6:36)

I’m shocked by the mercy Jesus has shown me. By the world’s standards, I’m not the worst. I’ve never started a world war. My picture has never been on a wanted poster. But Jesus knows my heart.

He knows it all, every ugly thought, every unkind word, every selfish act. He knows about every time I knew better, but rebelliously refused to do better. No doubt I deserved judgment.

Mercy is often shocking. In a world that cries out for justice with a voice that keeps getting louder, mercy for the other guy is usually met with outrage. But this isn’t new.

“As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd. “Teacher,” they said to Jesus, “... this woman was caught in the act of adultery. The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?” (John 8:3-5)

What would we say about this woman? Better yet, what do we say when we catch others in the act of sinning against us? Do we demand justice or offer mercy?

Jesus said, “All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!” (John 8:7)

Let’s be like Jesus. Let’s shock the world. Let’s make the mercy we show the people in our lives a testimony to all the mercy we’ve been shown.

Questions:

1. Do you think of yourself as a merciful person? Would the people in your life describe you as merciful?
2. The people in our lives are struggling just like we are. How is mercy an act of compassion toward them?
3. Pastor reminded us that, “Our greatest witness is showing mercy to others.” How could you use mercy as a witness to the people in your life?
4. How could you be a part of God’s mercy for others? Do you know someone in need, or someone in crisis that you could help?
5. Without mercy none of our relationships will last. How has mercy saved some of the relationships in your life? Do any of your relationships need some mercy now to survive?

