

MERCY:

Compassion in Action

April 6th, 2025



DAY 1: THE GIFT OF GOD'S MERCY

READING: EPHESIANS 2:1-10

God's mercy is at the heart of our salvation. Today's passage reminds us that we were once dead in our sins, but God, rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ. This undeserved favour isn't something we can earn through good works or religious activities. Rather, it's a gift freely given out of God's great love for us.

As you reflect on this truth, consider the areas in your life where you might be trying to earn God's favour instead of resting in His mercy. How might embracing God's unconditional mercy change your heart towards serving others? Today, practice extending mercy to others as a reflection of the mercy you've received.

DAY 2: COMPASSION IN ACTION

READING: LUKE 10:25-37 (THE GOOD SAMARITAN)

The parable of the Good Samaritan illustrates mercy in action. While others passed by, the Samaritan was moved with compassion and took practical steps to help the injured man. This story challenges us to move beyond mere sympathy to active compassion. The gift of mercy, as described in Romans 12:8, involves seeing pain, feeling it, and responding to it.

Consider a situation in your life or community where you've noticed suffering. How can you respond with cheerful, practical mercy? Remember, showing mercy isn't just about feeling sorry for someone; it's about taking action to alleviate their suffering, even when it's inconvenient or costly.

DAY 3: MERCY IN OUR WEAKNESSES

READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 12:7-10

Paul's thorn in the flesh reminds us that even in our weaknesses, God's grace is sufficient. Often, we try to hide our struggles or overcome them in our own strength. However, God's mercy shines brightest in our moments of vulnerability. Reflect on areas where you feel weak or inadequate. How might these weaknesses be opportunities for God's power to be displayed?

Today, practice being honest about your struggles with God and a trusted friend. Allow God's mercy to meet you in your weakness, and be open to how He might use your vulnerabilities to display His strength.

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DAY 4: EXTENDING MERCY IN COMMUNITY

READING: COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

Those that follow Jesus are called to clothe themselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. These qualities are hallmarks of a mercy-filled life. In community, we have daily opportunities to extend mercy to one another - forgiving as the God forgave us.

Think about your relationships within Vitalpoint Church. Are there situations where you need to extend mercy? Perhaps someone has disappointed you or fallen short of your expectations. How can you respond with the same mercy God has shown you?

Today, make a conscious effort to be a bearer of God's mercy in your interactions with others.

DAY 5: MERCY THAT LEADS TO WORSHIP

READING: PSALM 103

David, who wrote this psalm was a king of Israel. His psalm is a beautiful reflection on God's mercy and compassion. He reminds us that God doesn't treat us as our sins deserve but removes our transgressions as far as the east is from the west. This profound mercy should lead us to worship. As you read through this psalm, let it stir your heart to praise.

Reflect on specific ways God has shown you mercy in your life. How has His compassion impacted your journey of faith? Perhaps you have been unaware of God's mercy towards you until now. Take time today to meditation on God's mercy. Your response to God's mercy can become one of worship and recognition of who God is. Consider writing your own psalm of thanksgiving for God's mercy, and let it inspire you to be a more merciful person in your daily life.