

Mercy may only be given but never bought, sinners seek mercy, but saints often do not.

Mercy is relational generosity.

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

Matthew 5:7

Mercy is of great significance to God.

1. God the Father uses it to describe Himself.

"Then he passed in front of Moses and called out, "I am the LORD God. I am merciful and very patient with my people. I show great love, and I can be trusted." Exodus 34:6

2. Jesus emphasized the importance of mercy through questions and statements that are hard to get out of your head.

"But go and learn what this means: I desire mercy, not sacrifice. For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Matthew 9:13

Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers? The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise." Matthew 6:14-15

The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant Matthew 18: 23-35

Discussion Questions:

- 1. How have you been on the receiving end of mercy recently?
- 2. Who do you see hurting, that you can show compassion for and how can you show compassion?
- 3. Who in your life do you need to forgive?