

THE QUEENS MINISTRY – BIBLE BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP “GOD’S MERCY”

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“The faithful love of the Lord never ends; His mercies never cease. Great is His faithfulness; His mercies begin afresh each morning.” Lamentations 3:22-23 (NLT)

God’s Mercy!

1: We begin our lesson by asking the question – “why does God extend mercy to me?”

Because He loves us and wants to be in relationship with us!

But because of the sinfulness of mankind -in order for Him to be in relationship with us He not only had to love us but show us mercy also. God's great mercy is reflected in the cross of Christ, which we can see is a direct reflection of His love for us. **“Mercy is an extension of and expression of His wonderful love,** it is "an act of kindness, compassion, or favor." Mercy also fuels compassion, providing promising glints of light in a darkened world.

It is kindness, forward forgiveness, and empathy. Mercy chooses not to be offended, and compassionately sees a hurting heart behind hurtful words.” Like **grace** – **“Mercy** is a characteristic of the One True God.” *

2: How important is the theme of mercy in the Bible?

Just as grace is a constant theme in the Bible, God’s mercy is significantly noted from the Old to the New Testament.

“Mercy” a cornerstone characteristic of God, is evidenced by its repetition in Scripture. In various translations of the Bible it is mentioned _____ times in the King James Version, _____ times in the English Standard Version, _____ times in the New American Standard Bible, _____ times in the Amplified Bible, and _____ in the New English Translation, according to Bible Gateway. However, it is mentioned also as **“mercies,”** and **“merciful.”** *

3: Definition of mercy: _____

Mercy is the withholding of a _____ condemnation.

Hebrew form of the word is **CHESED** - which can mean God's covenant

Another form of the word mercy in Hebrew is **RACHAM** - which can mean to be

The Greek form of the word is **Eleos**- which means _____

Also seen as **Eleeo**- which means to give out compassion

4: What are other words associated with the thought of mercy?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6) _____

7) _____

All in all, God's mercy is something that the English language fails to truly capture. It is a combination of steadfast love, goodness, forgiveness, strength, lovingkindness, and so much more.

5: What Does Mercy Reveal About God's Character?

Mercy reveals how just and fair, yet loving and compassionate, God is.

We are _____ because of God's mercy.

Writer David Mathis writes "God's mercy not only shows us who he is, but also tells us something about ourselves." We are _____ of the One True God.

He has written our _____ as citizens in _____, by His mercy. *

What does Hebrews 4:16 tell us we need to do to find mercy and grace to help in our time of need _____

Mercy is manifested in God's activity on behalf of his people to free them from slavery

or _____

David Mathis also says "When God shows his mercy, he does so with utter intentionality and strength, and we as his creatures get our deepest glimpse of who he is not just in his sovereignty but his goodness." *

Mercy is an expression of who _____, and His _____
(*Exodus 34:6-7*)

6: What Are the Benefits of God's Mercy?

The benefits of God's mercy include _____

What does Lamentation tell us about God's mercies. _____

Psalm 86:15 (NIV) says, The Lord is a _____ and
_____ GOD, _____

Abounding in _____ and _____

Verse 16 says – The writer asks God to show forth what? _____

To our eternal benefit what does James 2:13b tell us: "mercy _____
over judgment" (*James 2:13b*).

7: God fully demonstrates His mercy in Jesus Christ

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."
John 3:16

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death - even on a cross!" (Philippians 2:8 NIV).

God's mercy is closely aligned with _____

God's plan stems from His merciful love for His people. Knowing there was nothing we could do to earn our way into His presence, He made a way through the crucifixion of Christ.

Defeating death, Jesus opened access to God for us.

Through _____, _____

and the _____ living in us, **each day brings fresh new mercy.**

Every morning, God is faithful, even though every day, we fall short.

Mercy is God's _____ to the repentant heart.

What do the following verses tell us about His mercy:

a) Psalm 86:5 NIV _____

b) Ephesians 2:4-5 NIV _____

c) Titus 3:5 NIV _____

8: Throughout the Bible, God gives many illustrations of His mercy

Some examples of Mercy in the Bible

Exodus 16:3 _____

Psalms 51:5 _____

Acts chapter 7, 8 _____

John 8:10-11 _____

1 Kings 11:13 _____

Matthew 18:23–27. _____

9: What Does Mercy Mean for Christians?

“Whenever you possibly can, do good to those who need it.” (Proverbs 3:27 GNT)

Rick Warren writes in his article, “Seven Characteristics of Mercy,” that “learning to be an agent of mercy transforms our relationships.”

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall _____ mercy.” (Matthew 5:7 ESV)

“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, _____ one another, as God in Christ _____.” (Ephesians 4:32 ESV)

“Love _____ the requirements of God’s _____.” (Romans 13:10 NLT)

10: Summary

Love is the common denominator between mercy and grace. “Mercy is what gets us out of trouble,” writes **Dr. Ray Pritchard**. “Grace gives us what we don’t deserve.” By grace Jesus saved us, and mercy flowed from Jesus last words, “**Forgive them, for they know not what they do**” (Luke 23:24).

From a daily devotional reading it states that “We would be wholly lost if it weren’t for the abundant mercy of our heavenly Father.” He has mercy on us, so we are to have mercy on others.

When we cry out - God, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Jesus, have mercy.’ When we pray like that, we will find the mercy we need from God,” writes **Dr. Ray Pritchard**.

Mercy allows us to experience love, forgiveness, compassion, _____ and _____, whether we deserve it or not

Mercy and grace, love and forgiveness are characteristics of the One True God, functioning in connection as He sits sovereign on the throne of heaven.

The mystery of our Triune God knits these traits together in a beautiful tapestry of redemption and restoration for all of us

Think about:

What is the difference between grace and mercy?

Further Study:

Find a story in the Bible that shows God’s mercy or someone being merciful. Prepare to share with the class.