

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching out to leaders who can change the world.

God: Discover His Character

Oct 2018

Lesson 11 – God Is Merciful

INTRODUCTION

Read Article How did the cross fulfill both of God's attributes of justice and mercy? **1 Pet 2:24**

EXPLORATION

*Note: "No, O people, the LORD has already told you what is good, and this is what he requires: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." **Micah 6:8 (NLT)***

Read 2 Samuel 12:1-15 & 24-25

Note: David committed adultery with Bathsheba and had her husband murdered in chapter 11.

1. How does the parable relate to the events of the previous chapter?
2. Why does the absence of justice and mercy in Nathan's account so enrage David? Vv. 5-6
3. What is Nathan's perspective on gratitude? Vv. 7-9
4. What was the principle way David violated God's mercy? Vs 9
5. What was David's response to God's mercy?
6. What were the consequences of David's actions on him? On his family? On others?
7. Why didn't God spare David of the consequences his sin?
8. What other redemptive purpose is accomplished by God's severe mercy? Vv. 24-25
9. How does our willingness to extend mercy affect our relationship (intimacy) with God?

Read Matthew 18:21-35

10. Offenders in Jesus' day were forgiven up to three times; a fourth offense need not be forgiven. What does Jesus' answer say about forgiveness? Vs 22
11. Why did the king cancel the servant's huge debt?
12. What was the reaction of the forgiven servant to someone else's small debt?
13. Why were the other servants deeply grieved?
14. How did the lord of the servant respond to his servant's lack of mercy? Vv 31-34
15. What should be our motivation for forgiving others?
16. Based on this parable, do you think God's forgiveness is conditional? Limitless?
17. What does this passage say about venturing to risk forgiveness (again)?

APPLICATION

- What steps are you going to take today with a person in your life who needs God's mercy?
- Are you harboring resentment against someone or having difficulty forgiving him or her?
If so, how could you make corrective action?

But the Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him.

Daniel 9:9 (NLT)

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16 (ESV)