

## Mercy: Lost Art & Simple Science

Today's Text – 1 Samuel 24-30, Psalms 25, 32, 40

➤ Mercy \_\_\_\_\_

➤ (David spares Saul – 1 Sam 24, 26)

- Put your peace on the table
- Leave outcomes with God

*Do not repay anyone evil for evil... If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath,.. Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good. - Romans 12:17-21*

➤ Mercy returns \_\_\_\_\_

(Abigail intervenes with David – 1 Sam 25)

- No exceptions!
- Help each other – with humility and focus on the Lord

*Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. - 1 Peter 3:8-9*

➤ Mercy \_\_\_\_\_  
(God's mercy on David – 1 Sam 27, 29-30)

*Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. – Colossians 3:12-14*

Mercy may be a lost art, but it is a simple choice!

\_\_\_\_\_ Today I choose to receive God's forgiveness through Christ.

\_\_\_\_\_ Today I choose to forgive \_\_\_\_\_ as the Lord forgave me.

## FOR FURTHER ACTION AND REFLECTION:

- Plan to join us for worship, a Psalm teaching, and prayer this Wednesday night from 6:45-8:00
- Meditate on Psalms 25, 32, 40
- Memorize Colossians 3:12-14
- Read "The Healing Power of Forgiveness" at <https://www.biblicalcounselingcoalition.org/2016/12/21/the-healing-power-of-forgiveness>
- Read *Putting your Past in its Place* by Stephen Viars
- Listen to "What Mercy did for Me" by People & Songs - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-GRU5K3UFmE>
- Listen to "Over and Over Again" by I Am They - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qTeggf9m-0>

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. Do you agree that mercy is a kind of "lost art" today? Why or why not?
3. Where do you see Jesus acting with mercy in the gospels?
4. Read Psalm 25:4-7 and Psalm 40 (especially verse 11). What difference did God's mercy make in David's life?
5. David shows mercy to Saul but is ready to be merciless toward Nabal. Can you relate to this situation of being more able to grant mercy and forgiveness to some and not to others? Explain.
6. Read Ephesians 2:1-10. What do we learn about God's mercy from this passage?
7. Describe a time when you felt unworthy of God's mercy? How did God lead you to receive His mercy? What did this look like?
8. Read Ephesians 4:32 and Colossians 3:12-14. What do we learn from these verses about forgiveness?
9. What makes forgiveness hard? What obstacles do we need to overcome when forgiving others?
10. Share about a time when you either forgave someone or were forgiven by someone. What happened and what difference did forgiveness make?