



Week # 2: The Way of Mercy

“You have heard the law that says the punishment must match the injury: ‘An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I say, do not resist an evil person! If someone slaps you on the right cheek, offer the other cheek also. If you are sued in court and your shirt is taken from you, give your coat, too. If a soldier demands that you carry his gear for a mile, carry it two miles. Give to those who ask, and don’t turn away from those who want to borrow.”

Matthew 5:38-42 (NLT)

Understanding Jesus’ Way of Mercy:

- Knowing the law doesn’t change our _____ . (V 38)
- Mercy does not seek _____ . (V 39)
- Mercy does not respond to _____ . (V 39)
- Mercy gives _____ is required. (V 40)
- Mercy goes the _____ . (V 41-42)

Final Thought: Those who have _____ mercy are willing to _____ mercy, because they know they will _____ mercy again.

There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you.

James 2:13 (NLT)

But God is so rich in mercy; he loved us so much that even though we were spiritually dead and doomed by our sins, he gave us back our lives again when he raised Christ from the dead—only by his undeserved favor have we ever been saved.

Ephesians 2:4-5 (TLB)

Discussion Questions

1. Share a time when you’ve been insulted, disparaged, made fun of. How did that make you feel, and how did you respond?
2. Has anyone given you more than what you expected? What was that like?

3. What does "going the extra mile" look like for you when it comes to serving the unlovable?
4. What opportunities might you have today or in the coming week to "go the extra mile" for someone?

Recommended Resources

- *Ministries of Mercy*, by Timothy J. Keller
- *Dark Clouds, Deep Mercy*, by Mark Vroegop
- *Running from Mercy*, by Anthony Carter

(NLT) New Living Translation

(TLB) Living Bible

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Matthew 5:38-42 (NLT)

Understanding Jesus’ Way of Mercy:

- Knowing the law doesn’t change our HEART. (V 38)
- Mercy does not seek REVENGE. (V 39)
- Mercy does not respond to INSULTS. (V 39)
- Mercy gives MORE THAN is required. (V 40)
- Mercy goes the EXTRA MILE. (V 41-42)

Final Thought: Those who have RECEIVED mercy are willing to GIVE mercy, because they know they will NEED mercy again.

There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you.

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