

# CHIEF

## MINISTRIES

August 2026

This month I want to explore “mercy” and what it means to have mercy, be merciful, and why it is important in our spiritual walk with the Lord. Mercy is like a diamond; it is multifaceted. We’re going to look at seven facets of mercy. And I pray that learning how to be an agent of mercy will transform your relationships.

Have you ever noticed that if you’re critical with others, they’re critical with you? If you’re kind to others, they’re kind to you? Or if you’re generous with others, then they’re generous with you? Whatever you give in life, you’re going to get in return. So, what does that have to do with mercy, and what does it look like?

- Mercy means being patient with people’s quirks. (By the way, we ALL have them....)  
The Bible says in James 3:17, *“The wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy” (NLT)*. The wiser you become, the more patient and merciful you become.
- Mercy means helping anyone around you who is hurting. (We ALL have these too....)  
You cannot love your neighbor (or cellie) as yourself without being merciful. Proverbs 3:27 says, *“Whenever you possibly can, do good to those who need it” (GNT)*.
- Mercy means giving people a second chance. (Isn’t that what we ALL want....)  
When somebody hurts you, you normally want to get even or write that person off. But the Bible says, *“Stop being bitter and angry and mad at others . . . Instead, be kind and merciful, and forgive others, just as God forgave you because of Christ” (Ephesians 4:31-32 CEV)*.
- Mercy means doing good to those who hurt you. (This is a hard one, but God is justice, not us.)  
Mercy is giving people what they **need**, not what they **deserve**. Why should you do that? Because that’s what God does with you: *“Love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back . . . Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:35-36 NIV)*.
- Mercy means being kind to those who offend you. (This will probably be the most “mercy opportunity” you will be faced with....)  
You need to be more interested in winning people to Christ than in winning an argument. Jude 1:23 says, *“Show mercy to others, even though you are afraid that you might be stained by their sinful lives” (GW)*.
- Mercy means building bridges of love to the unpopular. (another frequent “mercy opportunity”)  
This is what I call premeditated mercy, because you intentionally build friendships with people who don’t have friends or who are not accepted at work or in society. When the Pharisees questioned why Jesus ate with tax collectors and other unpopular people, Jesus said, *“I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.’ For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners” (Matthew 9:13 NLT)*.
- Mercy means valuing relationships over rules. (This may be a difficult one for most of you because of your current housing, but still has “mercy opportunities”)  
Romans 13:10 says, *“Love fulfills the requirements of God’s law” (NLT)*. If you want to show

mercy, put people before policies. Put their needs before procedures. Put relationships before regulations. Choose love over law.

So often it is easier to be more interested in winning an argument than in winning people to Christ. If mercy means valuing relationships over rules, we need to change the way we interact with others.

The same is true with God's mercy. Jesus says in Matthew 5:7, "*God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy*" (NLT). But why does God want you to show mercy to others? Why is being merciful so important?

- Because God has shown you mercy.  
Ephesians 2:4-5 says, "*God's mercy is so abundant, and his love for us is so great, that while we were spiritually dead in our disobedience he brought us to life with Christ. It is by God's grace that you have been saved*" (GNT). God wants you to pass on the mercy that you've received from him.
- Because God commands you to be merciful.  
Do you want a summary of what life's all about? Here it is: "*The Lord has told you what is good. This is what the Lord requires from you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to live humbly with your God*" (Micah 6:8 GW).
- Because you're going to need more mercy in the future.  
You're going to make a lot of mistakes between now and when you get to heaven, and you're going to need God's mercy. But you cannot receive what you are unwilling to give. James 2:13 says, "*You must show mercy to others, or God will not show mercy to you when he judges you. But the person who shows mercy can stand without fear at the judgment*" (NCV).
- Because showing mercy brings or causes happiness.  
Matthew 5:7 says that *God blesses those who are merciful*. The word "blessed" also means "happy," so the more you learn and demonstrate this quality, the happier and more blessed you're going to be.

Because so many people in the world are living for themselves, showing mercy and grace to others will always stand out. Be known for your mercy as you model for others how good God has been to you, and you will make an eternal difference!

By now, for those who have been receiving these newsletters for a while, you know I like to provide you with tools to add to your spiritual toolbelt for your use in the future, and within the kingdom. So, it is time for steps toward a plan!

This plan starts with a promise from God! "*God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.*" Matthew 5:7 (NLT).

God extends his mercy to us, even though we don't deserve it and can't earn it. All we have to do is ask for it: "*O Lord, you are so good and kind, so ready to forgive, so full of mercy for all who ask your aid*" (Psalm 86:5 TLB).

## PLAN TO BE MERCIFUL

- **Be patient with people's quirks.** What person in your life has irritating quirks? How can you practice patience with them this week?

- **Help anyone around you who is hurting.** Who around you is obviously hurting? What's one specific way you can help that person this week? If you can't think of anybody, then you're not paying attention. Look closer!
- **Give people a second chance.** Who do you need to give a second chance to? How can you show that person mercy and compassion this week?
- **Do good to those who hurt you.** Maybe you're suffering from an old wound that you have not been able to let go of. You need to forgive and then turn it around for good. Who is that person in your life? Will you make a phone call or a visit from them?
- **Be kind to those who offend you.** Who offends you? Maybe it's a politician or a comedian that you can pray for. Maybe it's a friend who has different views and says some pretty offensive things on social media. How can you be intentional about showing kindness to that person this week?
- **Build bridges of love to the unpopular.** When you think of an outcast, who is the first person that comes to mind? Who spends their lunch breaks eating alone or doesn't seem to have any friends at rec? What specific thing will you do this week to bridge the gap between you and that person?
- **Value relationships over rules.** Who is an unbeliever you could invite over to church or a ministry event? This is your ministry of mercy.

Think over all of those questions. That's your plan for showing mercy. God has offered His mercy to you. You'll experience that mercy in new ways when you start offering it to others. Purpose: how you can intentionally show mercy to people around you who are hurting?

What do you think it means to "love mercy"? How have you seen God bless you when you've shown mercy to someone—even when it was a difficult decision? Think of a way you could have shown mercy to someone in the last week but didn't. How do you think it might have changed the outcome of that situation?

**God saves you for eternity.**

Praying that God reveals "mercy" opportunities and the blessings and rewards will be tangible to each of you. Rather than focusing on winning an argument, the Lord will help you show mercy and win that person to Christ!

Blessings and prayers for each of you and your families from CHIEF Ministries!

***Ms. Chief (aka Ms.G)***

***If you want to know more about CHIEF Ministries or would like to be a part, please go to [www.chiefministries.com](http://www.chiefministries.com)***

***Christ's                      Heart                      In                      Every                      Felon***



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