

MERCY FORGIVES
The Miracle of Mercy – Part 4
May 7, 2017

Matthew 6:12 (NLT) *“Forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us.”*

Mercy: unearned kindness & undeserved forgiveness

1. Mercy means God forgives you.

Four Truths About God’s Forgiveness...

- **God wants to forgive you.**

Nehemiah 9:17b (TLB) *“But You are a God of forgiveness, always ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to become angry, and full of love and mercy.”*

Micah 7:18b (NIV) *“You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.”*

- **God freely forgives you.**

Romans 3:23-24 (TLB) *“Yes, all have sinned; all fall short of God’s glorious ideal; ²⁴ yet now God declares us ‘not guilty’ of offending Him if we trust in Jesus Christ, who in His kindness freely takes away our sins.”*

- **God immediately forgives you.**

Isaiah 55:7 (GNT) *“Let the wicked leave their way of life and change their way of thinking. Let them turn to the Lord, our God; He is merciful and quick to forgive.”*

- **God completely forgives you.**

Colossians 2:13-14 (NLT) *“You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for He forgave all our sins.¹⁴ He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.”*

Micah 7:19 (NCV) *“You will have mercy on us again; You will conquer our sins. You will throw away all our sins into the deepest part of the sea.”*

Romans 8:1 (NIV) *“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”*

James 2:13b (NIV) *“Mercy triumphs over judgment.”*

2. Mercy means I forgive others.

Forgiveness Quiz...

A person should not be forgiven until he or she asks for it. T/F

You haven't really forgiven until you've forgotten the offense. T/F

Forgiving includes minimizing the offense & the pain caused. T/F

Forgiveness includes restoring trust & reuniting a relationship. T/F

When I see someone hurt, it is my duty to forgive the offender. T/F

Four Truths About Forgiving Others...

- **Forgiveness is not conditional.**

Ephesians 4:32 (NIV) *“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”*

- **Forgiveness is not forgetting.**

2 Timothy 4:14 (NIV) *“Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done.”*

- **Forgiveness is not trusting the person again.**

2 Timothy 4:15 (NIV) *“You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.”*

Forgiveness is immediate.

Trust has to be earned over time.

- **Forgiveness IS releasing it to God.**

Colossians 3:13 (NLT) *“Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”*