

SHOWING MERCY TO YOUR FAMILY

The Miracle of Mercy – Part 5

May 14, 2017 – Mother’s Day

Psalm 101:2 (TLB) *“I will try to walk a blameless path, but how I need Your help, especially in my own home, where I long to act as I should.”*

Quiz: How Merciful Are You With Your Family? When a spouse, sibling or other family member...

Gets some details wrong while telling a story, do I:

- A – Interrupt them and correct them publicly?
- B – Say nothing and let it go knowing I’ve done the same?

Keeps making the same mistake over and over, do I:

- A – Become irritated and angry at them?
- B – Graciously forgive them and pray for them?

Is getting more attention than I think they deserve, do I:

- A – Feel resentful and feel the need to bring them down a notch?
- B – Celebrate with them?

Says or does something that I don’t understand, do I:

- A – Assume they have the best motivation for doing it?
- B – Question their motivation and think the worst?

Am I politer with...

- A – Strangers?
- B – With my own family?

Whatever is true about love is also true about mercy.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a (NIV) *“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁸ Love never fails.”*

4 WAYS TO SHOW MERCY AT HOME

1. By overlooking irritations and offenses.

1 Corinthians 13:5c (NLT) *“Love is not irritable.”*

1 Corinthians 13:5c (NIV) *“Love is not easily angered.”*

Proverbs 17:9 (TLB) *“Love forgets mistakes; nagging about them parts the best of friends.”*

Proverbs 19:11b (NIV) *“It is to one’s glory to overlook an offense.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:15 (MSG) *“Be careful that when you get on each other’s nerves you don’t snap at each other. Look for the best in each other, and always do your best to bring it out.”*

2. By being kind when they don’t deserve it but need it.

1 Corinthians 13:4a (NIV) *“Love is patient, love is kind.”*

Proverbs 19:11a (NIV) *“A person’s wisdom yields patience.”*

Proverbs 3:27 (NCV) *“Whenever you are able, do good to people who need help.”*

Proverbs 19:22a (TLB) *“Kindness makes a man attractive.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:15 (CEV) *“Don’t be hateful to people, just because they are hateful to you. Rather, be good to each other and to everyone else.”*

Mercy - “unearned kindness and undeserved forgiveness.”

3. By letting go of past hurts.

1 Corinthians 13:5d (NIV) *“Love keeps no record of wrongs.”*

1 Corinthians 13:5 (TLB) *“Love is never haughty or selfish or rude. Love does not demand its own way. It is not irritable or touchy. It does not hold grudges and will hardly even notice when others do it wrong.”*

4. By believing God is working in the lives of others.

1 Corinthians 13:7 (NIV) *“Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”*

Psalms 28:2 (GW) *“Hear my prayer for mercy when I call to You for help, when I lift my hands toward Your most holy place.”*

Hebrews 4:16 (NIV) *“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”*

Lamentations 3:20-23 (NLT) *“I will never forget this awful time, as I grieve over my loss. ²¹ Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this: ²² The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. ²³ Great is His faithfulness; His mercies begin afresh each morning.”*

**These four ways of showing mercy at home are the same ways
God shows you mercy every single day of your life.**