

**God Is Merciful:**

During this series we will be looking at who God is. This week we will see how God is Merciful. Meaning that He continually finds reason to hold back the punishment that is due to us and instead, He forgives our sin and gives us one more chance, over and over again.

**This Weeks Memory Passage: Psalm 130:1-4**

*Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love,  
for they are from of old.*

Read Psalm 130:1-14 out loud all the way through. Now, read it again, slowly focusing on every word and pausing at every punctuation.

*Out of the depths, I cry to you, O LORD;  
O Lord, hear my voice.  
Let your ears be attentive  
to my cry for mercy.  
If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins,  
O Lord, who could stand?  
But with you, there is forgiveness;  
therefore you are feared.*

**Psalm 130:1-4**

➤ As you read this slowly, what truth stood out to you in this passage?

*As I read this myself, stopping to focus on the words really helped me not miss the beauty of God's mercy and the call on my heart.*

*"Out of the depths" pausing I recognize how far I am from God's perfect will. I do not deserve His mercy but that is what mercy is all about.*

*"I cry to you" so because I am so far from pleasing him I must cry, not just call but cry. I sense a need to almost beg of his mercy. Not because he requires begging but because that is my place, a beggar with nothing to offer but I ask knowing the one who I cry to can help.*

*"O LORD" only He can help me. So I focus my crying out for mercy to Him alone.*

*"Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy" I say this with confidence that He wants to hear my cry for mercy.*

*"If you, O LORD, kept record of sins" Lord help me if God was like me. If he let the offenses of people stay on His heart but that is not who God is. He is full of mercy.*

*"O LORD, Who could stand?" It is the LORD who is our only hope. I stand in confidence not of my own doing but of His great mercy.*

*"But with you" Amen with God not men!*

*"There is forgiveness" He alone can, will, and already has forgiven me. SO I say with confidence, with you there is forgiveness. My cry for help pays off!*

*“Therefore you are feared” Because God alone is full of mercy and forgiveness I respect and fear the one and only God who can and will give me a second change.*

➤ What does Psalm 130 tell you about your role in receiving God’s mercy?

I need to recognize my need. It reminds me that I need to cry out to God. I need to have confidence and trust he is a forgiving God.

➤ Can you identify three or four attitudes we need to have when seeking mercy?

Here are a few I pick up on in these verses.

1. I have to acknowledge how far short I am of God’s standard
2. I need to be willing to stand in humbly before God and beg for mercy
3. I need to be confident that He is full of mercy
4. I need to trust that He can and will forgive me

### **Daily Scripture Meditation Reading:**

God’s mercy revealed in the Psalms

- Day 1: Psalm 6
- Day 2: Psalm 25
- Day 3: Psalm 30
- Day 4: Psalm 143
- Day 5: Psalm 130

➤ How has reading from the Psalms this week revealed that God is full of mercy and compassion?

Ask people to share from what they read this week.

➤ What does the truth that God is Merciful mean to you personally?

Ask people to share

➤ How has God shown that He is Merciful in your life?

Ask people to share

➤ How should that affect the way you live your life?

Ask people to share

➤ What should this truth lead you to do in your daily walk with God?

Ask people to share

*But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. Titus 3:4-5*

## Discovering God Is Merciful

Read and journal your thoughts from Psalm 145:8-9

*The LORD is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love.  
The LORD is good to all;  
he has compassion on all he has made.*

What do these verses tell you about God's mercy?

How should this truth lead you in response toward God?

Write a prayer to God with your response today: