

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS :: WEEK TWO

CHANGED BY GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS, JUSTICE, AND GRACE



1. What impacted you from last week's message?
2. According to Romans 3:23, who needs the righteousness of God and why?
3. According to Romans 3:25-26, how does Christ's redeeming work on the cross demonstrate God's righteousness and how does it satisfy God's justice?
4. Since God's grace is vital to our salvation and our continued growth in the Lord, how do we see it demonstrated in Romans 3:21-26?
5. What role do you play in receiving the gracious gift of righteousness that comes through Christ Jesus?
6. From Romans 6:12-14, what do you learn about your response to sin as a faith filled believer in Jesus Christ?
7. What are some ways you can keep from being controlled or mastered by this particular sin?
8. What are ways that you can present your body as a "slave to righteousness"?
9. According to Romans 6:19, as you present yourself to the Lord to be controlled and mastered by him, what does this lead to?
10. What do you think our righteous and gracious God most wants to do in your heart to change you into His image (making you more righteous and gracious) over the course of the next few months or year?

Close in prayer.







# HOMework :: WEEK THREE

CHANGED BY GOD'S MERCY



## DAY ONE

**Pray:** Psalm 51:1 "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love, according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions." As you begin your study of God's mercy, prayerfully ask Him to show you how you are like the servant in Matthew 18 (from the teaching this week) who disregarded the enormity of his own debt and the incredible gift of forgiveness and mercy he was given. Humbly ask God to refresh your appreciation for the fact that you are forgiven according to His abundant mercy.

**Memorize:** Luke 6:36. Please write the memory verse on the lines below or on a notecard to use for reference and meditation throughout this week.

---

---

### Study:

1. Please read Psalm 103:8-14. What do you learn about the nature of God from these verses?

---

---

---

2. From verse 11 what do you learn about God's love for you?

---

---

---

3. \*Which of these verses is the best description of God's mercy to you? And why does this verse speak to you?

---

---

---

4. \*In light of what you have been learning about God's nature during this study, why is His treatment of our sin (His mercy) so amazing?

---

---

5. If possible, go outside (or maybe look out a window) and look up at the vastness of the sky. Do you see where the heavens end? This is the grandeur of God's love for you. Now look to the east and the west (or left and right for the directionally challenged) Can you measure how far apart east is from west? This is the greatness of God's forgiveness and mercy given to you. Please close your study by responding to God in praise and thanksgiving for what you have learned today.

## DAY TWO

**Pray:** Psalm 103:8 "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." Please pray this verse back to the Lord in thanksgiving for specific ways and times in which you need mercy. (Thank you, Lord that you are merciful and gracious. . . when I am . . . )

**Memorize:** Luke 6:36. Please read or say the verse aloud several times. List a few synonyms for "merciful" that could give you greater understanding of what this verse means.

---

---

**Study:**

1. \*Please read Psalm 103:8-14 again. Focus on the qualities of God's nature in these verses. Which of these are most difficult for you to demonstrate on a daily basis?

---

---

---

2. When you fail to live out these qualities, it's sin against God. What does it mean to you that when you confess it as sin, God is merciful and abounding in steadfast love?

---

---

3. Please think of a situation in which you find it difficult to be forgiving and merciful. What would it look like for you to:

a. Abound in steadfast love for that person or in that situation? (v. 8)

---

---

b. Not hold your anger forever? (v. 9)

---

---

c. Not repay the other person according to their sin against you? (v. 10)

---

---

d. Demonstrate compassion to the other person or in that situation? (v. 13)

---

---

4. As you close your time in the Word, commit this situation and the people involved to the Lord. Share with Him how these verses have brought conviction to your heart.

## DAY THREE

**Pray:** James 2:13b "Mercy triumphs over judgement." Open your time in the word today in prayer, recognizing that because of Christ, God's mercy can triumph over His judgement.

**Memorize:** Luke 6:36. Please say your verse out loud emphasizing any word(s) that seem most impactful to you.

### Study:

1. Please read Ephesians 4:31-5:2. What do you learn about God and Christ Jesus from these verses?

---

---

---

2. \*From these verses which qualities might be found:

a. In an unforgiving heart?

---

---

b. In a forgiving heart?

---

---

3. \*How does the word "therefore" connect Ephesians 5:1 to 4:32? What do you learn about imitating God by reading these verses together?

---

---

---

4. Which part of Ephesians 5:1 do you identify with most – “Be imitators of God” or “as beloved children”? How does your understanding of this verse change if you consider both parts equally?

---

---

---

5. Please close your time in the word today in prayer reflecting on the fact that God has forgiven you as a beloved child and called you to imitate Him.

## DAY FOUR

**Pray:** Colossians 3:13 “bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other, as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.” Begin your study today by asking God to open your eyes to ways that you need to change so that you can actively demonstrate these truths in your life.

**Memorize:** Luke 6:36. Personalize this verse as if it were written just to you by filling in the blanks as guided below:

(your name) \_\_\_\_\_, be merciful, (fill in synonyms from day 2) \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ with (fill in the name of someone who needs your mercy) \_\_\_\_\_ just as your Father is merciful [to you].

### Study:

1. \*Please reread Ephesians 4:31-5:2. How could the sinful heart attitudes in 4:31 be a barrier to forgiving others?

---

---

---

2. \*Considering Ephesians 4:32, how could the qualities of kindness, tenderhearted, and forgiving work together in your relationships with others?

---

---

---



3. In what ways would your life look different if you were to follow the example of God and Christ Jesus shown in these verses?

---

---

---

4. As you think about following God's example of forgiveness, why is it important to remember that Christ loved you so much He gave Himself up as a sacrifice to God for you?

---

---

---

5. Close your time of study today by telling the Lord what you have learned from Ephesians 4:31-5:1.

## DAY FIVE

**Pray:** 1 Peter 1:3 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." Begin your time in the Word by praising God for His great mercy to you.

**Memorize:** Luke 6:36. Please write your verse below from memory.

---

---

### Study:

1. How do you respond when confronted with your own sin?

---

---

a. How do you respond when someone sins against you?

---

---

b. What does this tell you about your understanding of the mercy and forgiveness you have received from God?

---

---

2. \*Based upon what you have learned this week about God's mercy, please share how He may be calling you to change to better imitate His mercy.

---

---

3. At times when you resist showing mercy, what do you hope to gain by withholding forgiveness from the one who has hurt you?

---

---

a. Why is that outcome so important to you?

---

---

b. As you look back over your notes and the homework from this week, what are some practical ways that you could commit your wounded heart and desired outcomes to the Lord so that you can move toward becoming merciful and forgiving?

---

---

4. \*How does a more complete understanding of God's mercy impact your view of

a. God?

---

---

b. Yourself?

---

---

c. Your relationships with others?

---

---

5. As you complete your study today, tell God what you have learned about His mercy and what you have learned about yourself. Ask Him to continue His work in your heart that you might become merciful just like He is merciful.