

The Father's Heart of Compassion and Mercy

Being A Community of Hope In A Despairing World - Part 8 of 8

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“Is it possible for a woman to reject her nursing child? Is it possible for a woman to have no **compassion** on the son of her womb? **I will never forget you.** I have engraved you on the palms of My hands.”

Isaiah 49:15-16

“Jesus returned to the Mount of Olives, but early the next morning he was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them. As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd. “Teacher,” they said to Jesus, “this woman was caught in the act of adultery. The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?” They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger. They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, “All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!” Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust. When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, “Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?” “No, Lord,” she said. And Jesus said, “Neither do I. Go and sin no more.”

John 8:1-11 NLT

- *They have _____ to judge, so they _____ judge.*
- *I have the _____ to judge,*
 - 1. but I _____ judge!*
 - 2. and I will _____.*

“...Mercy triumphs over judgement.”

James 2:13b ESV

God is a Father of _____ & _____.

A KINGDOM VALUE:

A _____ OF _____ & _____.

“HOW TO BECOME A COMMUNITY OF HOPE IN A DESPAIRING WORLD”

“What can we bring to the LORD? What kind of offerings should we give him? Should we bow before God with offerings of yearling calves? Should we offer him thousands of rams and ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Should we sacrifice our firstborn children to pay for our sins? No, O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.”

Micah 6:6-8 RJP

I. to _____

HUMILITY = Going where God is going, doing what he is doing, showing the world who he is.

II. to _____

To LOVE MERCY is to make mercy the passion of our lives, to intentionally look for ways to be merciful—i.e., to be a community of mercy-givers.

III. to _____

“JUDGES” = RESCUERS, AGENTS of God's rescue (*Agents of mercy*) in the lives of those in bondage to their own sin.

“Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to take advantage of. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a *servant* and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.”

Philippians 2:1-8 NLT

Acts 8:26-39 NLT
Deuteronomy 23:1-3
Isaiah 56:3-8 NLT