

Discovery Service Order and Message Outline



WELCOME TO CEC	Pastor Phill and Sara
WORSHIP VIDEO	Praise him you Heavens (Great in power)
PRAYER	
UPDATES	Pastor Phill and Sara
CHILDREN'S TALK	Lou and Hannah
WORSHIP VIDEO.....	Mercy
BIBLE READING	Ephesians 2:1-10
MESSAGE	Taught by Pastor Phill
WORSHIP VIDEO.....	Jesus, Your Mercy



**The Search for Happiness~5
How to show mercy in a harsh world.
Ephesians 2:1-10**

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy." Matthew 5:7 NIV

"Happy are the merciful, for they will have mercy shown to them." Matthew 5:7 JBP

*"If you want to be happy be kind to those in need; it is a sin to despise anyone!"
Proverbs 14:21 TEV*

"Your own soul is nourished when you show mercy." Proverbs 11:17 NLT

WHY BE MERCIFUL TO OTHERS?

1. God has _____ me mercy.

"God's mercy is so abundant, and his love for us is so great that while we were spiritually dead in our disobedience, he brought us to life with Christ. It is by God's grace you have been saved." Ephesians 2:4-5 TEV

"Shouldn't you have mercy on others, just as I had mercy on you?" Matthew 18:33 NLT

2. God _____ me to be merciful.

"The Lord has told us what is good. What he requires of us is this: to do what is just, to show constant love, and to live in humble fellowship with our God." Micah 6:8 TEV

"I don't want your sacrifices! I want you to be merciful!" Hosea 6:6 NLT

3. I am going to need more mercy in the _____.

"You must show mercy to others, or God won't show mercy to you... But the person who shows mercy can stand without fear at the judgment." James 2:13 NCV

HOW DO I BE MERCIFUL?

1. Be patient with people's _____.

*"Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love."
Ephesians 4:2 LB*

"The man who makes no allowances for others will find none made for him." James 2:13 JBP

"The wisdom that comes from heaven is pure, peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. Wisdom is full of mercy..." James 3:17 NLT

2. Help anyone _____ around me.

"Whenever you possibly can, do good to those who need it." Proverbs 3:27 TEV

"[When you do] acts of mercy, show mercy with cheerfulness." Romans 12:8 NIV

"If you work with the disadvantaged, don't let yourself get irritated with them or depressed by them. Keep a smile on your face." Romans 12:8 MSG

3. Give people a _____.

"Don't get bitter or angry or use harsh words that hurt each other. Don't yell at one another or curse or ever be rude. Instead, be kind and merciful, and forgive others, just as God forgave you because of Christ." Ephesians 4:31-32 CEV

4. Do _____ to those who hurt me.

"Love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because God is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." Luke 6:35-36 NIV

5. Be kind to those who _____ me.

"Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief... I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for others who'd believe on him and receive eternal life." 1 Timothy 1:13, 16 NIV

"Show mercy to those who have doubts. Save others by snatching them from the fire. Show mercy to them, while being careful that you aren't contaminated by their sins." Jude 1:22-23 GW/NLT

6. Build bridges of love to the _____.

"Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to be his dinner guests, along with his fellow tax collectors and many other notorious sinners. The Pharisees were indignant. 'Why does your teacher eat with such scum?' they asked his disciples. When he heard this, Jesus replied, 'Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. Go learn the meaning of the Scripture, 'I want you to be merciful; I don't want your sacrifices!' For I have come to call sinners, not those who think they are already good enough.'" Matthew 9:10-13 NLT

"He saved us, not because of the good things we did, but because of his mercy." Titus 3:5 NLT

"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Hebrews 4:16 NIV



SMALL GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION

1. What does Matthew 18:33 say about having mercy? How often are we to show mercy?
2. Have you experienced another showing you mercy? How did it make you feel?
3. Read Hosea 6:6 and James 2:13. Why does God command us to be merciful? How important to God is it that we be merciful? Is this important to you? Discuss what challenges you have being merciful.
4. Read Luke 6:35-36 and think of people who have hurt you or your loved ones. What can you do to show mercy to them? Do you find it easy or hard? Brainstorm ways in which you can take that first step towards showing mercy easier, so you can help yourself, see Proverbs 11:17
5. Read Matthew 9:10-13. Reflect on your past and current relationships with individuals who you considered unpopular "scum" (as it says in the NLT!). If you had the chance to do it again, share how you might implement "premeditated mercy" as a better alternative to how you interacted with that person. How might the results have been different? Think of a current person who fits the mould of unpopular; talk about what you could do to show premeditated mercy to that person.
6. Refer back to Hosea 6:6. Jesus references this verse twice signifying its importance in his ministry here on earth. Asking the Holy Spirit to guide you, think of a ministry that is needed in our community to build bridges of mercy and love for an "unpopular" group. Who would it reach out to? What service would it provide? How could that ministry of mercy lead others to know Christ? What could your role be in making this ministry happen?
7. Read the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-38. How does Jesus answer the question, "Who is our neighbour?" What people come to mind that we can go out of our way to show mercy to?

Watch and listen to the message again, or an archived message by going to www.youtube.com/cowplainchurch.