

God's Mercy – Part 5
SHOWING MERCY TO YOUR FAMILY (Mother's Day)

"Lord, I want to live a blameless life, but how I need your help Lord, especially in my own home, where I long to act as I should." Ps. 101:2 (LB)

QUIZ: HOW MERCIFUL AM I WITH MY FAMILY?

When my spouse or sibling or another family member....

Gets some details wrong while telling a story, do I

- Interrupt them and correct them publicly?
- Say nothing and let it go, knowing I've done the same?

Keeps making the same mistake over and over, do I

- Become irritated & angry at them?
- Graciously forgive them and pray for them?

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

- Feel resentful & feel the need to bring them down a notch?
- Celebrate with them?

Says or does something I don't understand, do I

- Assume they have the best motivation for doing it?
- Question their motivation or think the worst?

Am I more polite with

- strangers?
- my own family?

4 WAYS TO SHOW MERCY AT HOME

1. BY OVERLOOKING IRRITATIONS & OFFENSES

"Love is not irritable or easily angered." 1 Cor. 13:5

"Love forgets mistakes; nagging about them separates even close friends." Prov. 17:9

"It is to your glory to overlook an offense." Proverbs 19:11b

"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." 1 Thess. 5:15 (Mes)

2. BY BEING KIND WHEN THEY DONT DESERVE IT

"Love is patient, Love is kind, Love is always supportive." 1 Cor. 13:4, 7

"Whenever you are able, do good to people who need help." Prov. 3:27 (NCV)

"Don't be hateful to people, just because they are hateful to you. Rather, be good to each other and to everyone else." 1 Thess. 5:15 (CEV)

3. BY LETTING GO OF PAST HURTS

"Love keeps no record of wrongs." 1 Cor. 13:5b

"Love is not rude. Love does not demand its own way. It is not irritable or touchy. It does not hold grudges." 1 Cor. 13:5 (LB)

4. BY BELIEVING GOD WORKS IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS

"Love always trusts, love is always hopeful, and love always perseveres through whatever comes." 1 Cor. 13:7b

"Lord, hear my prayer for mercy when I call to you for help, when I lift my hands toward your most holy place." Psalm 28:2 (GW)

"I will never forget this awful time, as I grieve over my loss. Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this: The unfailing love of the Lord never ends! By his mercies we have been kept from complete destruction. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each day." Lamentations 3:20-23