

## The Year Long Celebration of God

### Three Months of Mercy Bible Reading

#### **September** **The God of Mercy**

**Week 1: Psalm 103:1-22** is a psalm of praise for the Lord's mercies. As you meditate on this passage this week, take time to praise the Lord for His mercy in your life.

**Week 2: Isaiah 55:1-13** extols the free offer of mercy God extends to all people, but it also explains the expectations God has on those who receive His mercy.

**Week 3:** In **Psalm 116:1-19** the psalmist thanks the Lord for delivering Him from death and makes vows concerning his devotion.

**Week 4: Romans 9:1-33** is a deep passage with significant repercussions. Dwell long over the passage this week. Study it. Understand it. And praise God for showing you mercy!

**Week 5: Psalm 40:1-17** is a sustained exultation of God for compassionately sustaining His servant.

#### **October** **Our Merciful Salvation**

**Week 6: Titus 3:4-7, Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:4-5** all reveal different implications that God's mercy has in our salvation.

**Week 7: I Peter 1:1-25** not only references God's mercy in salvation, but it also details the greatness of that salvation as well as important steps that we should take in light of that mercy.

**Week 8:** In **I Timothy 1:1-20** Paul reminds Timothy why he was left in Ephesus and discusses the purpose of the Law. Then starting in verse 12, Paul reveals that though he greatly transgressed the Law God showed him mercy so that the Lord would receive the glory.

**Week 9: Psalm 13:1-6** starts as a psalm of lament. David very much felt as though the Lord had abandoned him, but the psalm needs gloriously proclaiming the reality that God is merciful to save.

**Week 10: Psalm 85:1-13** beautifully illustrates the mercy of God in salvation. Even though the Israelites had sinned greatly, and even though that angered the Lord, He was still merciful.

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### November God's Mercy in Us

- Week 11: Proverbs 3:1-35** unpacks the rewards of wisdom. It highlights the fact that God is merciful in not allowing us to flounder in ignorance. He provides teaching, he gives understanding, and He strengthens us to live wisely. In light of that, verses 27-31 explain how and why we should live mercifully with others.
- Week 12: Matthew 5:1-48** is so full of glorious truth. However, read the whole passage in light of our responsibility to be merciful and you will discover how we receive mercy and what that mercy in our lives should produce. It is because of the mercy of God in us that we can withstand persecution, share the gospel with the world, and interact in a Christ-honoring way with the people in our lives. In fact, much of the rest of the Sermon on the Mount (chapter 6-7) is a practical example of what it is to be merciful as we interact with the world and the people in it.
- Week 13: Matthew 18:1-35** exemplifies the outworking of mercy in our lives. Those who understand mercy will not be puffed up concerning their rank in the kingdom, they won't be stumbling blocks, they will sacrifice to reach others with the Gospel, they will lovingly confront their brothers and sister in Christ when they sin, and they will forgive. This passage also reveals God's attitude toward us when we're not merciful with others.
- Week 14: Colossians 3:1-25** starts by calling us to live in the light of our redemption which requires that we flee from sin and treat each other lovingly. Many of the ways we are to love each other is a result of the compassion we have been shown and which is to be alive in us. The end of the chapter even gets into specific detail about family relationships — all of which require mercy with each other.
- Week 15: James 2:1-26** not only exemplifies how we should mercifully interact with others, but it also gives examples of ways we fail to be merciful. Then it further explains the consequences of not keeping God's Law and explains the relationship between faith and works. All of that to say, if we claim to have faith in God but are not merciful, our faith is dead.