



SERIES: In View Of God's Mercies

Bonus Week – Reflect, Consolidate, Pray

Start with a song and prayer to focus your time together on the Lord.

Song suggestion: Rend Collective's "One and Only"

Read the Word

Romans 12:1-2 is the pivot verse that connects our understanding of God's mercies with ongoing action. Have two different people read the passage aloud, first in NIV or similar translation, then also in The Message version. Take a minute to let it sink in.

Reflect and Review

Look back over the mercies of God we've been thinking about from Romans 1 – 11

- Mercy Undeserved
- The Mercy of Sacrifice
- The Mercy of a New Identity
- The Mercy of the Indwelling Spirit
- The Mercy of Being God's Children
- The Mercy of Hope
- The Mercy of Love
- The Mercy of Inclusion

Is there one (or more) of those that stands out or particularly resonates for you at the moment? Tell us a bit more about that. What do you think God is emphasising to you about that?

↑ To help get into this question at a more heart than head level it can be helpful to take a creative approach. A couple of ideas:

1. Gather a bunch of random pictures from magazines, postcards, catalogues, brochures, cards, anything really. It is good to include a variety of types of images: people, scenery, objects, abstract, quirky, close ups and wide shots. But it doesn't really matter. You probably want at least 3x as many pictures to choose from as people involved. Scatter the pictures on the floor or table. Ask everyone to choose one that speaks to them in some way about one of "The Mercies". Share around the group why each person chose the image they did.
2. Same as No.1 but use objects.
3. Ask people to pick one of "The Mercies" and think about the image it conjures up in their mind. It might be a picture or symbol, or some descriptive words. Share those pictures and insights with one another.

Pray

- Pray about things that came up as you engaged in the exercise above.
- Read Romans 12:1-2 (MSG) again
- Pray for one another – invite the Holy Spirit to empower & minister during this time.
- Pray for one of Ruach's or your house church's mission partners

Praise

Song suggestion: Rend Collective's "Joy of the Lord" (Perhaps mix other songs into the prayer time too.)