The Power Of A Changed Life The Mercies of God Pastor Steve

Key Verses of The Power Of A Changed Life

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:1-2 NIV

Key Thought of the Series

The power of a changed life is realized as we offer TRUE AND PROPER WORSHIP to our Creator God.

...to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

True and proper worship will lead to a **CHANGED** life.

The Challenge For The Power Of A Changed Life

Playing it safe in your spiritual life is dull, ineffective and lacking in adventure and passion... until, we truly understand **TRUE AND PROPER** worship.

Key Verse of the Day

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy... Romans 12:1a NIV

Key Thought of the Day

The mercy God extends to us should lead us to seek to **PLEASE HIM**.

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Romans 3:23 NLT

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 NLT

The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning. Lamentations 3:22-23 NLT

In View Of God's Mercy...

God is <u>HOLY</u>.

It was in the year King Uzziah died that I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple. Attending him were mighty seraphim, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.

They were calling out to each other, "Holy, holy is the Lord of Heaven's Armies! The whole earth is filled with his glory!" Their voices shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire building was filled with smoke. Isaiah 6:1-4 NLT

In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle.

Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under its wings. Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty," who was, and is, and is to come."

Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." Revelation 4:6-11 NLT

The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Laminations 3:22 NLT

In View Of God's Mercy...

• God is ALL-KNOWING.

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. Psalm 139:1 NLT

In View Of God's Mercy...

· God is All-Powerful.

God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! Ephesians 3:20 The Message

In View Of God's Mercy...

• God is **EVERYWHERE**.

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. Psalm 139:7-8 NIV

Grab This!

We ought to be amazed that a God of such holiness, knowledge, power and presence **FREELY OFFERS** his mercy to those who know Jesus.

Reality Check

God's mercy ought to change our **OUTLOOK ON LIFE**.

3 Action Steps Regarding God's Mercy

1. Make **ASKING** for mercy a priority in your prayer life.

Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: "I thank you, God, that I am not like other people—cheaters, sinners, adulterers. I'm certainly not like that tax collector! I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income."

But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, "O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner."

I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. Luke 18:10-13 NLT

Two Things To Consider:

- If you are a follower of Jesus, <u>SEEK</u> God's mercy for your life daily.
- If you are not a follower of Jesus, sin is literally killing you... so why not seek out God's mercy today.
- 2. Express **THANKFULNESS** to God for His mercy in your life!

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. Ephesians 2:4-5 NIV

Jesus said, "There was a certain rich man who was splendidly clothed in purple and fine linen and who lived each day in luxury. At his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus who was covered with sores. As Lazarus lay there longing for scraps from the rich man's table, the dogs would come and lick his open sores.

"Finally, the poor man died and was carried by the angels to sit beside Abraham at the heavenly banquet. The rich man also died and was buried, and he went to the place of the dead. There, in torment, he saw Abraham in the far distance with Lazarus at his side.

"The rich man shouted, 'Father Abraham, have some pity! Send Lazarus over here to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue. I am in anguish in these flames.' "But Abraham said to him, 'Son, remember that during your lifetime you had everything you wanted, and Lazarus had nothing. So now he is here being comforted, and you are in anguish.

And besides, there is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there.' "Then the rich man said, 'Please, Father Abraham, at least send him to my father's home. For I have five brothers, and I want him to warn them so they don't end up in this place of torment.' Luke 16:19-28 NLT

3. Demonstrate your **LOVE** for others by showing them mercy.

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Luke 6:36 NIV

The Bottom Line

God's mercy ought to not just change our spiritual position with God, it also ought to change our **HEART-ATTITUDES**.

I urge you... in view of God's mercy...

The Challenge

- 1. What is one way that you can embrace God's mercy in your life?
- 2. Who is someone in your life that you could extend mercy?