



MISSION CREEK

Alliance Church

1. What would you say is at the heart of Jesus's teachings and ministry? Why? Have you always thought that? If not, what changed?
2. With that in mind, what do you think of the statement: "Mercy is at the heart of Jesus's teaching and ministry. It's why he came and how he loved"? What examples of this can you think of from scripture?
3. The Greek word and definition of mercy is "*e/eos*" which means "Compassion for those afflicted **and** a willingness to relieve that affliction." What does that definition stir up in you?
4. Discuss William Barclay's definition of mercy that says, "mercy is to think like they think, see what they see, to feel what they feel. It's not about feeling sorry for them. It's not about pity, it's about getting into their skin." What holds you back from living out this kind of mercy?
5. Who do you find it easy to have mercy upon? Who is it difficult to have mercy upon?
6. Consider Hebrews 2:17-18 "For this reason he (Jesus) had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. 18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted." How does this impact your perception of mercy and of Jesus?
7. Read Luke 10:25-37. What do you "hear" most in this text as you consider it today?
8. If you were to "label" the priest, levite, and Samaritan in today's categories, how might you label them? What significance do you think it is that the Samaritan is the exemplary "neighbour?"
9. What does being a merciful neighbour look like in your life today? What can you do to step into this Kingdom way tomorrow?

MCA Church Circles

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