

The Magic of Mercy

Part 1: When I Mess Up



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Definition:

Mercy is _____ and _____ .

When do I need God's mercy?

I need God's mercy _____ .

All have sinned. (Romans 3:23)

If we say we haven't sinned, we deceive ourselves. (1 John 1:8)

We all stumble in many ways. (James 3:2)

An Ashamed Woman

One day Jesus was teaching a crowd outside the Temple, and some Pharisees brought in a woman who was caught in adultery.

They put her on display in front of the crowd, then they said to Jesus, "This woman has been caught in the act of adultery. The Law of Moses says to stone her. So what do you say?"

Jesus stooped down and started writing in the dirt with his finger. They kept badgering Jesus, demanding an answer.

Finally, Jesus stood up and said, "Here's my answer: If any one of you has never sinned, then you may throw the first stone." Then he stooped down again and continued writing in the dirt!

When the accusers heard this, they began to slip away, one by one, beginning with the oldest, until it was just Jesus and the woman.

At that point, Jesus stood back up and quietly said to her, "Where are your accusers? Is there no one left to condemn you?"

"No one, Lord," she said. Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you! Now go on, and leave your sinful ways."

(John 8:2-11)

If I ask God for mercy when I mess up ...

God's mercy _____ and _____.

"I was sent to announce freedom to all held captive and forgiveness to all who have been imprisoned." (Isaiah 61:1)

"I have come to save you and not to judge you." (John 12:47)

"Anyone who asks for mercy from the Lord shall have it and shall be saved." (Acts 2:21)

Next Week
The Magic of Mercy
Part 2: When I'm Disappointed