

The Magic of Mercy

Part 6: Becoming a Secret Agent

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In a mean world,
our greatest witness to the world is:

*"Show mercy to others, just as your Father shows mercy to you!"
(Matthew 6:36)*

If You're a Secret Agent ...

1. Start _____ and _____

Look out for one another's interests, not just your own. (Philippians 2:4)

Jesus looked at him and loved him. (Matthew 10:21)

When you give someone your attention,
you're giving them a slice of your life.

2. Don't be _____ by their _____

That night, Matthew invited Jesus to dinner with his fellow tax collectors and many other "notorious sinners." The Pharisees were indignant. "Why does your Teacher eat with such scum?" they asked.

When Jesus heard this, He said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor – sick people do!" So I've come to invite sinners to Me, not those who think they are righteous." (Matthew 9:10-13)

The Jesus Rule:

I can't look out for them, if I'm looking down on them.

3. _____ your _____

When you talk, you should always be kind and pleasant. (Colossians 4:6)

Do not say harmful things but say what people need – words that will help others become stronger. (Ephesians 4:29)

You're never persuasive when you're abrasive.

4. Value _____ more than _____

"You Pharisees are careful to tithe ten percent of every part of your income, but you then ignore other important matters of God's Law – justice, and mercy, and faith. Yes, you should tithe! But you shouldn't neglect the more important things!" (Matthew 23:23)

"I am an agent of mercy. So help me God."

Next Week
The Magic of Mercy
Part 7: How Much You Matter to God