

Investigating Jesus

Jesus Praises Faith & Wipes Away Tears

March 17, 2024 / Phil Bischoff

How does God's mercy make a practical difference in real life?

¹ When Jesus had finished saying all this to the people who were listening, he entered Capernaum. ² There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. ³ The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. ⁴ When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, "This man deserves to have you do this," ⁵ because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue. ⁶ So Jesus went with them.
Luke 7:1-6^a, NIV

"Love your enemies and do good to those who hate you" means: **God's mercy makes an impact in the community in which I live through me.**

He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: "Lord, don't trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof." ⁷ That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁸ For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." Luke 7:6^b-8, NIV

*"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" means: **I know God hears my prayer and answers in many powerful ways.***

⁹ When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel." ¹⁰ Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.
Luke 7:9-10, NIV

*"Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High" means: **I enjoy an amazing faith relationship with Jesus.***

¹¹ Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. ¹² As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out—the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. ¹³ When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, “Don’t cry.” Luke 7:11-13, NIV

*“Be merciful as your Father is merciful” means: **God’s heart goes out to me in my pain and tears.***

¹⁴ Then he went up and touched the bier they were carrying him on, and the bearers stood still. He said, “Young man, I say to you, get up!” ¹⁵ The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother. Luke 7:14-15, NIV

*“Blessed are those who weep now, for they will be comforted” means: **Jesus not only brings restoration of life, but resurrection from the dead.***

¹⁶ They were all filled with awe and praised God. “A great prophet has appeared among us,” they said. “God has come to help his people.” ¹⁷ This news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding country. Luke 7:16-17, NIV

Jesus helps every day by showing mercy to me and through me.

MEMORY VERSE

¹⁶ They were all filled with awe and praised God. “A great prophet has appeared among us,” they said. “God has come to help his people.” Luke 7:16, NIV

My next step:

I will bring God’s mercy with me outside of the classroom and put it to work in my life.

What’s your next step?

Mark it on your connection card.

Group Questions

CrossWalk Church has been making an Impact in Laveen for 20 years and in Midtown for four years. How do things like the school drive and Feed-a-Family and Resilient Recovery ministry and the Glow Run and our members serving the community in love make an impact?

I need mercy when I am out of control and out of options. When is a time you have felt that way? How did God show mercy.

A great prayer to start each day is: “Dear Lord, each day is a gift of your grace, your mercies are new every morning.”

Look back at your day today. How has God shown you grace and mercy?

Why is this prayer incredibly helpful and practical?