

LIKE IT OR NOT

Part 6: "Mercy!"

*"They are blessed who show mercy to others, for God will show mercy to them." **Matthew 5:7** (NCV)*

TO WALK IN THE FREEDOM AND JOY OF GOD'S MERCY...

1. ...MY MERCY HAS TO GO _____ THAN MY OWN _____

*"Later, Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. But when the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with such scum?' When Jesus heard this, he said, 'Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do.' Then he added, "Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: 'I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.' For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners." **Matthew 9:10-13** (NLT)*

*"Mercy and forgiveness must be free and unmerited to the wrongdoer. If the wrongdoer has to do something [meet your sense of justice] to merit it, then it isn't mercy."
~**Timothy Keller***

2. ...MY _____ HAS TO ECLIPSE MY _____

"You will be judged on whether or not you are doing what Christ wants you to. So watch what you do and what you think; for there will be no mercy to those who have shown

no mercy. But if you have been merciful, then God's mercy toward you will win out over his judgment against you."
James 2:12-13 (TLB)

"We have a high priest who can feel it when we are weak and hurting. We have a high priest who has been tempted in every way, just as we are. But he did not sin. So let us boldly approach God's throne of grace. Then we will receive mercy. We will find grace to help us when we need it." **Hebrews 4:15-16 (NIRV)**