

LIFEgroups

Open

Go around and let everyone answer.

Share a story of a time when you showed or were shown mercy.

DIG

What do you learn from being shown mercy?

What do you learn from showing mercy?

Read: Matthew 12.1-8

The Jews had strict laws about what could be done on the Sabbath (their day of rest.) They had even made laws on top of what God had commanded. Some Jewish leaders called Jesus' disciples out for doing what that considered work.

What do you think motivated their accusations?

What is the distinction Jesus is trying to make between mercy and sacrifice?

Why do you think God desires us to be merciful?

Read: Matthew 12.9-14

Seeing a crippled man, the Pharisees try to set up Jesus in order to accuse Him.

What do you think Jesus was trying to teach through His story about the sheep in distress?

Why did Jesus' act of mercy anger the Pharisees so much?

APPLY

In what area of your life would you like God to help you grow in showing mercy?

Close with a time of prayer.

Leader Notes

About This Guide

This week's guide comes the current lesson in a series from the Gospel of Matthew. This series focuses on Matthew's message of establishing that Jesus is King over all.

Big Idea

God is a God of mercy and He desires that we accept His mercy and reflect his love by showing mercy ourselves.

Reaching Out

Our LIFE Groups are a great place to pour out the love we share into the lives of others. We can't keep this love and community to ourselves. Who do you know that might benefit from being part of your group? Share those names, pray for them, and ask God to give you the courage to talk to them about visiting your group.