God's Mercy – Part 5 "BEING AN AGENT OF MERCY IN THE WORLD"

"You will be my witnesses" - Jesus, Acts 1:8 (NIV)

OUR GREATEST WITNESS IS SHOWING MERCY

"Show mercy to others, just as your Father shows mercy to you!" Luke 6:36

HOW TO BE AGENTS OF MERCY

1. LOOK FOR PEOPLE IN A CRISIS AND <u>LISTEN</u> TO THEM

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2 (NIV)

2. LOOK FOR PEOPLE WITH UNMET NEEDS AND <u>HELP</u> THEM

"Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, 'How can I help?' That's exactly what Jesus did. He didn't make it easy for himself by avoiding people's troubles, but he waded right in and helped out." Romans 15:2-3 (Mes)

3. LOOK FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE GRIEVING AND COMFORT THEM

"God comforts us in our troubles, so that we can comfort others who are in trouble with the same comfort that we ourselves received from God." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

4. LOOK FOR PEOPLE NEEDING FRIENDS AND SHOW HOSPITALITY

"Look for opportunities to be hospitable." Rom. 12:13b (NJB)

"I was alone and you welcomed me and showed me hospitality." Matthew 25:31-46

5. LOOK FOR PEOPLE NEEDING A SECOND CHANCE AND GIVE IT TO THEM

"When people sin, you should forgive and comfort them, so they won't give up in despair." 2 Corinthians 2:7 (CEV)

6. LOOK FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE RUDE AND BE KIND TO THEM

"Don't repay evil for evil. Never retaliate when people insult you or say unkind things about you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God wants you to do, and he will bless you for it!" 1 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

"God will not forget the work you've done and the love you've shown him by caring for and helping other people." Hebrews 6:10