

Hard Mercy

1. Most teaching on forgiveness is that it is something that you do for _____.
2. Being merciful can be _____. Sometimes people refuse to do it.
3. Bitterness is a _____ . Romans 12:17-19
4. Forgiveness is a _____ of God. Matthew 18: 22-35
 - a. Forgiveness is the purest expression of _____. v 33
 - b. Showing mercy is an _____ of God v 3
 - c. God will judge _____ those who refuse to forgive. v 35
5. The end goal of forgiveness is _____.
Ephesians 2: 17-19; II Corinthians 5:18

How to Show mercy when mercy is hard:

1. Separate _____ from _____.
2. Recognize that your offender was _____ in the image of _____.
3. Replace lies with _____. Philippians 4:8
4. Acknowledge what cannot be _____ and give it to _____.
5. Choose to live your life free from _____. Ephesians 4: 31, 32
6. A final thought: _____ is a _____ with two sides.
II Timothy 3:1-5

The Bible and forgiveness:

Bear with one another and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Col. 3:13

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Eph 4:32

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. II Cor. 1:3-5

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose. Romans: 8: 26-28

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with all men. Romans 12:18

When they hurled their insults at him, He did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, He entrusted Himself to Him who judges justly. I Peter 2:23