HEAR

THE WORD

DEBRIEF &

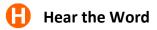


LOVE MERCY (Part 2) Psalm 103

As you gather together to hear and apply God's Word, share how you were influenced by the previous study since your group last met. Use the following questions for review.

Debrief & Interpret

- How did you apply the previous Scripture study?
- What did you learn about God as you applied the Word? What did you learn about yourself?



Often referred to as a psalm about the God who heals, Psalm 103 is an illustration of the many ways that God shows his love for us. Read this psalm carefully, underlining or highlighting all the examples of what God has done.

Read Psalm 103:

¹Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. ²Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits— ³who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, ⁴who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, ⁵who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. •The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. ⁷He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel: [®]The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. ⁹He will not always accuse,

nor will he harbor his anger forever;

¹⁰he does not treat us as our sins deserve

- or repay us according to our iniquities.
- "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;
- ¹²as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.
- ¹³As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

¹⁴for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.

¹⁷But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children-

¹⁸with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.

Discuss:

- 1. This psalm gives many examples of what God has done for us. Which word pictures connect with you personally? Why?
- 2. If God treats us this way, what does that mean for how we treat others? What might be challenging about doing this?
- 3. Compassion is mentioned several times. What do you learn from each different usage that would apply to your relationship with God and with others (vv. 4, 8, 13)?
- 4. What do you learn about how God heals?
- 5. How do mercy and justice go hand in hand in this passage?

Respond Actively

As you end your study, choose one or both options below to apply the Scripture to your life this week.

- Internal: This psalm suggests that we can care for others with compassion when we notice and accept God's compassion for us. As you reflect on the past few months of your life, how have you experienced God's mercy and compassion for you? Write out a brief psalm of praise to God based on your observations and begin each day this coming week praying your psalm to God.
- *External*: Based on God's compassion and forgiveness towards us, we too are called to demonstrate that same compassion towards others. Who is one person in your nursing school who is a challenge to love or forgive? What is one way you might show love or compassion to them this week?