


THE REQUIREMENT

- ACT JUSTLY
- LOVE MERCY
- WALK HUMBLLY
- WITH YOUR GOD

 #MC3THEREQUIREMENT



Discussion
Gu'ide

“LOVE REQUIRED”

11/13/16

THE REQUIREMENT

11/13/16

THE POINT:

THE REQUIREMENT IS TO LOVE MERCY IN A WORLD OF JUDGMENT

The Repeats (required)

Yes, they are the same, but *WE* change, so please discuss these with your group

- [Share the announcements (on FB thread) with your group]
- God is ALWAYS working! Sometimes we just need to keep our "antennae up", to be looking for it. Go around your group and share your God Moments of how you have seen God working, either in your life or in the life of another, over the past few weeks.
- Is there anything that you want to share that has stood out to you so far from the current Point series?

The Review (optional)

Use this section only if you want to review for those who were not in the Point

- Have someone explain the Point in their own words.*
- What object lesson or illustration was used to communicate the Point this week? How did this apply to the Point?*
- Have someone read or summarize the main Bible passage/story from the Point (see "The References" section).
- How did this Bible passage teach the Point?*

**someone who was in the Point may need to explain this*

The Reenergizer (optional)

Use this question if you need to get your group talking

- Have you ever been mistaken for someone else, or mistook someone else, thinking that they were someone you knew?

The Reflection (required)

Discuss these to go deeper, *and more personal*, into applying the Point

- Read Micah 6:8 and Matthew 23:23. What common themes do you see in these two passages?
- In Micah's time *and* Jesus' time, the people that were supposed to be following God were doing "good things," but neglecting to do what really mattered. What might this problem look like for Christ-followers *today*? Give some examples.
- Read Romans 12:2 in NLT and *The Message*. Do you think our culture is more judgment- or mercy-oriented and why? If that's true, as Christ-followers, what does it look like to not fit in or copy that pattern?
- Many times the word "judgment" is misused, especially when someone is *lovingly* confronted about sin—this type of "judgment" is a good and healthy thing! The issue of mercy vs. judgment that James addresses is a heart issue, that forgets that we have been shown mercy by Jesus, and therefore should show mercy to others. **Have someone dramatically read James 2:1-13 as if they are James speaking to your group**—substitute "we," "our," and "us," as appropriate when reading.
- What attitudes can lead Christ-followers into the *heart-issue* judgment that James addresses? What attitude do you need to change so that you are able to show mercy, rather than judgment?

The References

Main Passage: Micah 6:8 (NIV)

And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Matthew 23:23 (NIV)

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.”

Romans 12:2 (NLT)

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:2 (MSG)

Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

James 2:1-13 (NIV) *selected verses, read full passage in Bible

...judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.