#### Miracle Of Mercy: 3 of 8 "Transformed By Trouble" Cornerstone Church of Poway Pastor Ed Turley May 5, 2019

Big Idea: To Value God's Mercy, I Must Understand The Cost Of The Cross

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have **peace**. In this world you will have **trouble**. But take heart! I have **overcome** the world." **John 16:33 (NIV)** 

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is **patient** with you, not wanting anyone to **perish**, but everyone to come to **repentance**." **2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)** 

#### How Should I Respond To Trouble?

#### 1. Receive Mercy By

"I cry out to the LORD; I plead for the LORD's **mercy**. I pour out my complaints before Him and tell Him all my troubles. When I am overwhelmed, **you alone** know the way I should turn." **Psalm 142:1-3 (NLT2)** 

"God is our **refuge** and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." **Psalm 46:1 (NIV)** 

"We think you ought to know, dear brothers and sisters, about the **trouble** we went through in the province of Asia. We were **crushed** and **overwhelmed** beyond our ability to endure, and we thought we would never live through it. In fact, we **expected to die**. But as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and **learned** to **rely only on God**, who raises the dead." **2 Corinthians 1:8-9 (NLT2)** 

Notes:

#### 2. Give Mercy By \_

"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 have received from God." **2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NIV)** 

"**Two people** are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand **back-to-back and conquer**. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken." **Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10, 12 (NLT2)** 

#### Run. Hide. Fight.

"When three of Job's friends heard of the tragedy he had suffered, they got together and traveled from their homes to comfort and console him." **Job 2:11 (NLT)** 

### Listen And Share \_\_\_\_\_

"When they saw him from a distance, they could hardly recognize him; they began to weep aloud, and they tore their robes and sprinkled dust on their heads. Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights. No one said a word to him, because they saw how great his suffering was." **Job 2:12-13 (NIV)** 

#### Take \_\_\_\_\_

"Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act." **Proverbs 3:27 (NIV)** 

Notes:

Chabad of Poway, 16934 Chabad Way, Poway, CA 92064

#### 3. Let Mercy \_\_\_\_

"We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope." **Romans 5:3-4 (NIV)** 

Peter replied, "**Repent** and be **baptized**, every one of you, in the **name of Jesus** Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are **far off**--for all whom the Lord our God will call." With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "**Save yourselves from this corrupt generation**." Those who **accepted** His message were **baptized**, and about three thousand were added to their number that day." **Acts 2:38-41 (NIV)** 

"He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by **nailing** it to the cross." Colossians 2:14 (NLT2) Remember Verse

Notes:

# What does God want me to learn from what I'm going through?

## My next right step, I will respond to trouble by:

- [] Turning to God, knowing He is my refuge and strength
- [] Writing an encouraging note to Chabad of Poway
- [] Accepting Jesus as my Lord and Savior
- [] Going public with my faith in Believer's Baptism May 19

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.]

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**Family Corner:** [Choose one day this week to ask questions to go deeper in faith as a family. Try this over dinner. Keep it to 12 minutes or less.]

- o Discuss as a family what to do in a crisis. [Run. Hide. Fight.]
- Read 2 Peter 3:9-10
- o Why doesn't God return right now and stop all the evil in this world?
- If the Lord ran out of patience ten years ago, who in our family or friends would not be going to heaven?
- o Read John 16:33
- How did Jesus overcome the world?

God's #1 purpose in our lives is to help us become more like Christ. Everything in life makes more sense when we understand this purpose. Becoming a Christian does not mean we will not experience problems. While God hates evil and suffering, in His mercy He can take the bad things in life and bring good out of them. He uses Trouble to transform our character to be more like Christ. This process is called sanctification.

# How Should I Respond To Trouble?

1. Receive Mercy By <u>Crying Out To God</u> Read Psalm 142:1-3

What is the difference of complaining to God instead of against Him? Who do I turn to when things seem out of control?

# Read Psalm 46

How has God been my refuge and strength?

When have I sensed His presence the most?

When was the last time that I was simply still in His presence?

# Read 2 Corinthians 1:8-9

Sometimes we think that IF we are doing God's will then nothing bad will happen to us. How does Paul describe one of his mission trips?

When have I felt crushed and overwhelmed?

What did Paul learn to do? Did this mean he had no more problems?

How does this give us strength and comfort?

#### 2. Give Mercy By <u>Comforting Others</u> Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 How has God comforted me in the past?

How can I use the comfort that I have received to encourage someone else?

## Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Why do I need community?

What is the triple-braided cord referring to?

## • Show Up

#### Read Job 2:11

Who do I know that needs my presence to encourage them?

# Listen And Share <u>Their Pain</u>

#### Read Job 2:12-13

Why is it good at times to be present and yet say nothing?

# Take <u>The Initiative</u>

#### Read Proverbs 3:27

What is something tangible that I can do for someone else?

## 3. Let Mercy Transform My Character

#### Read Romans 5:3-4

How has suffering in my life helped produce character and hope?

#### Read Acts 2:38-41

Peter was speaking to a crowd of people who were responsible for yelling, "Crucify him!" to Pilate. How does Peter show mercy? When did I get baptized and identify myself with Jesus as my savior and Lord?

#### **Read Colossians 2:14**

How does the cross help me give and receive mercy?

Review any assignments or commitments made during your previous meeting.

## Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.