



Help When You Need it Most - October 2021

1. This week Pastor Nathan shared that we all deal with chasms that separate us from God. Sin is the greatest divider, but other things can pull us away from God. What things in your life have pulled you away from God? How has Christ bridged the gap and helped bring you back toward God?
2. In what ways have you experienced mercy, both from God and from others, throughout your life?
3. In the Old Testament, the original Hebrew text uses four words that we translate as "mercy" in English. We can find examples of this in Nehemiah 9:17-18, Psalm 23:6, Leviticus 16, and Daniel 7:10-11. These scriptures describe mercy as protection, compassion, atonement, forgiveness, faithful and steadfast love, and the sympathy that only a parent is capable of giving.
4. Matthew 25:31-46 describes the final judgement. In this scene, God separates the "sheep" (those who do his will and are destined for heaven) and the goats (those who do not do his will and are destined for destruction). The proof of our relationship with God is through how we live our lives. Christians must extend mercy to those around them. When we extend mercy to the hungry, the poor, the naked, the prisoner, those who are sick, etc., it is as if we are doing it to Jesus himself. How do you extend mercy to others?

