

GO DEEPER

SPECIAL WORDS

WHEN WE ARE UNDER PRESSURE

(PRESS PALMS TOGETHER AND RUB BACK & FORTH)

GOD IS MERCIFUL

(HUG YOURSELF)

MEMORY VERSE

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

2 Corinthians 4:7-9 (NIV)

DAILY DEVOTIONS

DAY 1: WISE IN THEIR OWN EYES

READ - Judges 21:25, Proverbs 3:7, Isaiah 5:21

When you look around the room, what colors do you see? How many toys do you see? Can you find something shaped like a circle? You're so smart! The Bible says that we usually think we're really smart and can make good choices all by ourselves. The problem is that even if we want to do the right thing, it can be really hard sometimes! We will always need God to help us make good choices! **Remember: When we are under pressure, God is merciful.**

DAY 2: GOD IS MERCIFUL

READ - Micah 7:18, Psalm 145:8

Should you take a cookie from the kitchen without asking first? Should you grab your friend's toy away from them? Should you scream "NO!" when your parents ask you to do something? No way! When we make wrong choices, we deserve to be punished for them. But if we ask God for forgiveness, He forgives us every time! God did this so many times for His people, the Israelites, and He will do it for us too! **Remember: When we are under pressure, God is merciful.**

DAY 3: JESUS IS OUR SUBSTITUTE

READ - Ephesians 2:8-9

Draw a picture or make a card for somebody as a gift. Did you know God gives us the best gift ever? The best gift of all is His Son, Jesus! Jesus took the punishment for all the wrong choices we make when He died on the cross and came back to life three days later. Rather than God punishing us, Jesus took our punishment and offers us forgiveness as a free gift because He loves us! **Remember: When we are under pressure, God is merciful.**

DAY 4: HIS MERCY NEVER RUNS OUT

READ - 2 Corinthians 12:9, 1 John 1:9

Play follow the leader with your child. Was it easy or hard to obey what the leader told you to do? You may think this game was easy, but there are times when obeying can be really hard! Can you think of a time when obeying is hard for you? God knows that we disobey and do things that are wrong, but He still loves us! God wants us to ask Him for forgiveness and stop doing the wrong things we do. **Remember: When we are under pressure, God is merciful.**

DAY 5: SHOW MERCY TO OTHERS

READ - Micah 6:8, Luke 6:36, Matthew 5:7, Colossians 3:13

Find a mirror in your house and look at it. What do you see? You should see your own reflection, and it should look just like you! Just like a mirror shows your face when you look into it, God made you to show others who He is! Since God offers us forgiveness when we ask Him for it, He wants us to forgive others too! It can be hard to forgive someone who hurts us but we can ask God for help. **Remember: When you are under pressure, God is merciful.**



MIRROR REFLECTIONS

Materials: Mirror, Dry-erase Marker

As followers of Jesus we should reflect His mercy to others. When we read the Bible we see that Jesus shows mercy to people who...

- ... believe in Him
- ... other people do not like
- ... ask for forgiveness
- ... are sick
- ... make wrong choices

With help from an adult find a mirror that you can use a dry erase marker to write on it with. On the mirror draw hearts, crosses, and smiley faces to remind you that you can show other's mercy just like Jesus! Keep these pictures on the mirror all week as a reminder that God wants you to reflect His mercy to others.



GOD'S MERCY NEVER ENDS

Materials: Eye Dropper, Bathtub of Water

We all love mercy, but do you ever wonder how much mercy God really has. Will He run out? One day will He stop giving us mercy? That's why Lamentations 3:22-23 is such an encouraging verse because it tells us that God's mercy is new each and every day.

Fill your bathtub with water. How many drops of water do you think are in your tub? Use your eye dropper and try to count them... it is impossible!! There are thousands of drops of water in your tub. But do you think that God has more mercy than the drops of water in your tub? YES!

In fact, a better comparison may be to take your eyedropper to the ocean and then count all the drops of water in there. How many drops of water do you think the ocean has? You could never count them all! But guess what? God has more mercy than even that! His mercy and forgiveness is brand new for us each and every day.



CUDDLE CLOSE

Materials: None

Before bed pull your child close beside you and say, "God shows me mercy everyday! Mighty is your love for me!" As you tuck them into bed, sing, "Mighty is Your Love" (www.tinyurl.com/mightyisyourlove). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you:

*Dear God,
You are the creator of the world.
Even when I make wrong choices You offer me mercy.
Help me to ask for forgiveness when I do wrong things.
Thank you for your mighty love for me!
In Jesus' name, Amen.*