

**A Living Sacrifice—Love Mercy**  
**Study Questions**  
**Micah 6:8 and related New Testament passages**

1. [**Micah 6:8; John 8:1-11**] The first 11 verses of the Gospel of John give an example of the mercy Micah refers to. The relevant legal consequence for the offense of adultery are in Leviticus 20:10 and Deuteronomy 22:22. Jesus didn't execute justice. Instead he modeled mercy. What aspects of mercy are found in this story? What did Jesus ask the woman to do as a result of His mercy? Why was it important that Jesus didn't just say, "that's okay" and pardon her immediately—why did she need to see everyone walk away?

2. [**Matthew 18:21-35; Luke 17:3-4**] The parable of the unmerciful servant is a bit jarring—God is deadly serious about the importance of mercy and forgiveness. But repentance plays a big part in both the parable and in the passage from Luke. What role does repentance have with respect to mercy? Why is repentance important, even when it is just between people? Why would God withdraw His mercy if we neglected to forgive someone who is genuinely repentant? On the other hand, what should be the source from which our own grace and mercy flows? Where should our focus be?

3. [**Matthew 9:10-13**] The Pharisees were very big on rules and justice, but mercy? Not so much. So, Jesus often referred them to Micah 6:8 (and Hosea 6:6). Why are our sacrifices for justice not enough—why do we also need to show mercy? What are some different ways in which mercy can cost us?

4. Is there someone you feel compelled to show mercy to? Conversely, is there someone you might need to repent to?