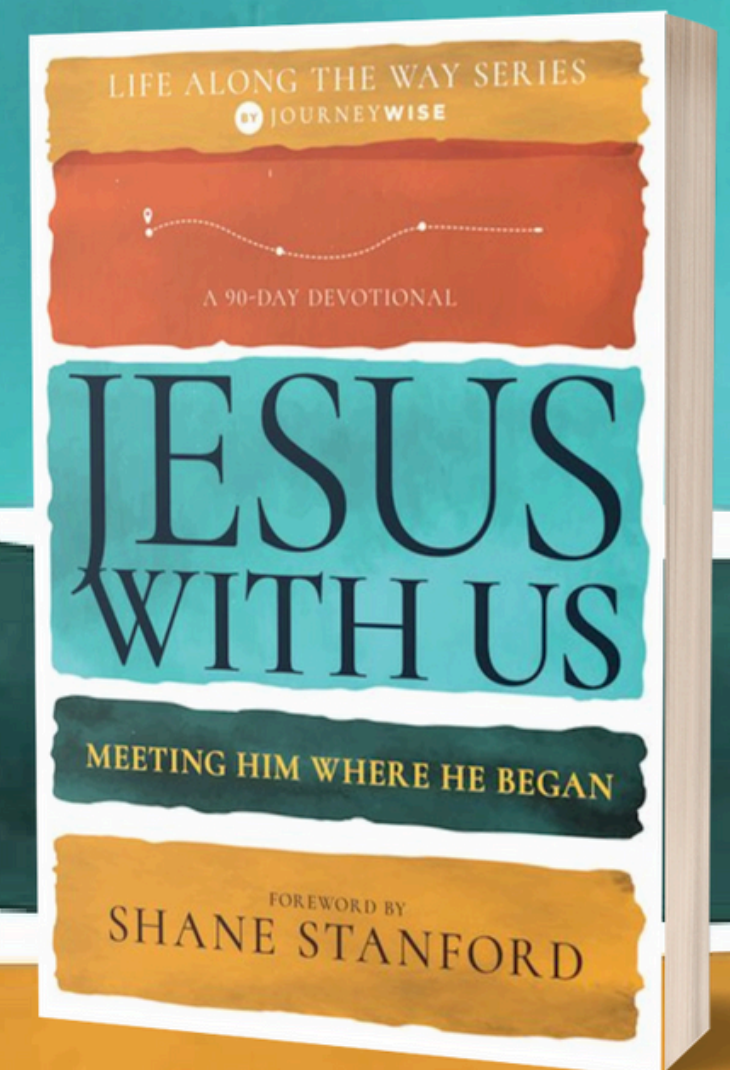


JOURNEY WITH US AS WE
JOURNEY WITH JESUS.





J E S U S W I T H U S

Week 10, Day 65

Blessed Are the Merciful

Read: *Matthew 5:7*

As part of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches that God blesses those who are merciful. There is a stark contrast between Jesus' teaching and the world's often articulated position that "mercy is for the weak." However, Jesus does not just encourage mercy, he says, "*God blesses* those who are merciful." Our confusion may not be so much about God's blessing as it is about "what is mercy." If we were to attempt to define mercy we might use words like kindness, forgiveness, compassion--which are all fair words--but still leave us a little cloudy on what mercy looks like. However, as hard as it may be to pin down what mercy means, we absolutely know it when we see it.

What do you think "mercy" means?

Jesus' example of mercy -

Luke 10:25-37

Lesson 1-

*“Mercy doesn’t make excuses for not
being merciful.”*

Lesson 2 -

"Mercy is not narrow. It is wide."

STOP & DISCUSS

“Mercy does not make excuses for not being merciful.” What are some common excuses we make for not being merciful toward those who need it?

“Mercy is not narrow. It’s wide.” What are some ways that we choose who to be merciful to? What are some way that we decide who not to be merciful toward?

Lesson 3 -

"Mercy costs us something."

STOP & DISCUSS

In your past experience, what has being merciful cost you? What has not being merciful cost you?

Can you name the people, people groups, or circumstances in which you find it hardest to be merciful? Why do you think these are hard places for you to extend mercy?

Next Week's Readings:

Days 71 - 77