

Showing Mercy to Your Family
1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT) pg. 691
Pastor Larry Morris
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"I will try to walk a blameless path, but how I need your help, especially in my own home, where I long to act as I should." Psalm 101:2 (LB)

Quiz: Showing Your Family Mercy

When my spouse or sibling or another family member....

1. Gets some details wrong while telling a story, do I...
 - Interrupt them and correct them publicly?
 - Say nothing and let it go, knowing I've done the same?
2. Keeps making the same mistake over and over, do I
 - Become irritated & angry at them?
 - Graciously forgive them and pray for them?
3. Is getting more attention than I think they deserve, do I
 - Feel resentful & feel the need to bring them down a notch?
 - Celebrate with them?
4. Says or does something I don't understand, do I
 - Assume they have the best motivation for doing it?
 - Question their motivation or think the worst?
5. Am I more polite with...
 - Strangers
 - My own family?

"Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud⁵ or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged.⁶ It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out.⁷ Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance." 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT)

4 Ways to show mercy at home...

"Love is patient and kind."

1. Being Kind when they don't deserve it.

Hurt People, Hurt People.

"Kindness makes a man attractive." Proverbs 19:22 (LB)

"It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable," (easily angered)

2. Over Looking Irritations and Offenses.

“Sensible people control their temper; they earn respect by overlooking wrongs.” Proverbs 19:11 (NLT)

“And be careful that when you get on each other’s nerves you don’t snap at each other. Look for the best in each other, and always do your best to bring it out.” **1 Thess. 5:15 (Message)**

“it keeps no record of being wronged.”

3. Letting Go of Past Hurts

“We buried the hatchet but left the handle sticking out.” Garth Brooks

How do we let go of past hurts? Don’t repeat it, delete it.

*“Love **never gives up**, never **loses faith**, is **always hopeful**, and **endures** through every circumstance.”*

4. Believing God for the Impossible.

*“I will never forget this awful time, as I grieve over my loss. ²¹ Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this: ²² The faithful love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease. ²³ Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning. I say to myself, “The LORD is my inheritance; therefore, **I will hope in him!**”* Lamentations 3:20-23 (NLT)