



# THE POINT

*Ask Jesus to love them.*

## **PROBLEM:**

Sometimes it is our fault others don't have it easier. We want what they have, believe we deserve it more, or they don't deserve it at all. What do we often do? Attempt to get in their way.

## **SOLUTION:**

Grow in the heart of Jesus. The question isn't, do you want mercy, here. It's, do you want them to have mercy? Want them to want mercy.

## **APPLICATION:**

Do you want Jesus to be merciful towards them? What kind of God do you practically want in the world?

## **SCRIPTURE:**

*Luke 19:1-10 NIV*

# LEADER WIN

I hate not getting what I want! Anyone else feel the same. I despise it more when I don't get it because of others. Truth is, some people don't want me to experience the mercy of God.

The reverse is also true. There are likely people we don't want to experience mercy. What we do next often only helps seal their fate.

Question for us is, what God do we want for the hurting around us? Do we Jesus to be merciful? Maybe we aren't ready, yet, to be merciful but let's pray God moves in the lives of those who need him.

**MAKE IT WELCOMING:** *Help the students believe they BELONG.*

1. How are you?! What is new in your life?
2. What are you involved in this week (sports, band, choir, or extracurricular activities). What are your schedules? We would like to come watch and support you.

**MAKE IT REAL:** *Help the students see themselves in God's word.*

1. What do you think your mom should get for Mother's day? Why?
2. Tell us about a time someone else got something instead of you. How did you feel? What did you do in response?
3. What type of people do you think don't deserve grace? What does our society do to those people?

**MAKE IT PERSONAL:** *Help the students take action steps this week.*

4. **READ JOHN 13:34-35.**
5. What type of people does Jesus call us to be and why?
6. What type of people do you find it harder to love like Jesus loved you? Who do you think deserves less than you? Who do you tend to want to cancel? Who will you not associate with?
7. How can you work towards wanting Jesus to show them mercy (even if you are not ready to yet yourself)?
8. **PRACTICE PRAYING THIS PRAYER.** Pray it tonight and then take it home and pray it for someone you know this week.

*"Heavenly Father, have mercy. Please show mercy to those who are hurting from pain, whether it be self-inflicted or others-inflicted. Help me want you to be merciful towards everyone. Change my heart towards love rather than hate. In Jesus name, AMEN!"*

**PRAY TOGETHER:**

How can we pray for you? What healing can we specifically ask God to help you experience?