

“Blessed are
the merciful,
for they will
receive mercy”
(Mt 5:7)

If there is one word in Scripture that, like others and **more than others**, expresses what Jesus revealed to us about God, this word is mercy.

Jesus, who is the son of God and of Mary, shows us that God loves us both like a father and like a mother, as clearly expressed in two concepts from the Hebrew Bible. One is that God has a **profound attitude of goodness** and kindness toward us, which reveals his constant faithfulness, and the other is that he has a **“maternal love”** towards everyone.



What is mercy?

And why does Jesus make it a condition for personal salvation?

Jesus returns to the theme of the beatitudes in the prayer of the **“Our Father,”** in which he tells us to say: “Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.”

There is a law written in heaven which says that our faults will be forgiven **in the measure that we forgive** other people.



The whole of Jesus’ teaching tends to give us, through his love, the tool for achieving this lofty fellowship with other people and with God.

Mercy is the ultimate expression of love, of charity, the one that completes it, and **therefore, makes it perfect.**

da un commento di Chiara Lubich
dalla Parola di vita di nov'00

Parola di Vita

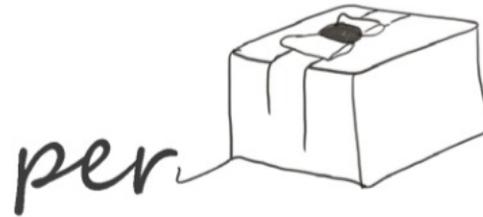
centro.rpu@focolare.org

adattamento Centro Internazionale Ragazzi per l'unità
movimento del
focolari

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How, then, can we live this
Word well?

Let's try, in all our
relationships,
to live this love
towards others
in the form of mercy!
Mercy is a love
that welcomes every
neighbor, especially the
poor and needy.
**Merciful love knows no
bounds. It is abundant,
universal and practical.**
This kind of love helps
bring about reciprocity,
which is the ultimate aim



of mercy, without which there
would only be justice,
which brings about **equality,**
**but not a true sense of
family.**



Nowadays, people often talk of denying
forgiveness to people who have
committed serious crimes.
They want revenge
more than justice.
But once every effort has
been made to compensate for the
damage done, we must let
forgiveness play its part.
Only forgiveness can heal the
personal and social trauma produced
by evil.



"Forgive and you will be
forgiven."

So, if we have been offended
or treated unjustly in any
way, let's forgive and
we will be forgiven.

**We can be the first ones to
show kindness and
compassion!**

Even if it seems difficult, and
we need to be brave, let's
ask ourselves in front of
every neighbor: **what would
his or her mother do?**

This thought will help us
understand and live
according to God's heart.