Expectations

1. Bring your bible
2. Answer Your Questions ahead of time
3. Confidentiality is essential
4. Make Your Community Group a Priority

Family devotional idea

**You are encouraged this week to read the full story of the life of David. David's story begins in 1Samuel 16 and goes through 2Samuel.*

- *Discuss the Scriptural theme of mercy with your family*

***Mercy**-sympathy in the greatest sense. It is being willing to experience pain alongside someone else. To crawl into their skin in order to see things from their perspective.*

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Community Group Question
Sunday January 15th

Upside Down Kingdom-Mercy

1. I remember as a child crying out for mercy when I was about o get punished by my parents (specifically dad). Can you think of a time when you were younger and asked for mercy that was undeserved?

Read the following Scriptures-**Matthew 5:7, Luke 11:4, James 2:13.**

2. If we do not show mercy to others then God will not show mercy to us. These are heavy Scriptures that point to the fact that mercy is not an option for the follower of Jesus. *Do you have a hard time showing mercy? Is you mercy selective?*

3. The word picture for mercy is crawling into someone else's skin in order to take on their situation**.** Jesus did exactly that when He was born in the flesh. Discuss the beauty of God understanding everything that we go through (pain, suffering, fear, temptation).

4. How did God seek you out in order to show you mercy? What are some ways God revealed Himself to you when you may not have even been seeking Him?

5. Is mercy random acts of kindness or is it much more purposeful than that? How are you currently pursuing people that you can give the gift of mercy?

***Prayer Time-I encourage you to pray the prayer of the tax collector in** Luke 18:13 "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'*