

Secular Franciscan Day of Recollection

“Mercy in our daily lives”

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Guiding Questions

What is mercy?

How do I experience mercy in my life?

How does mercy impact my leadership?

Describe:

1. I define mercy as.....
2. I feel most merciful when.....
3. When I think of mercy the image that pops into my head is.....

Spiritual Works of Mercy

Admonish Sinners

Instruct the Ignorant

Counsel the Doubtful

Comfort the Sorrowful

Bear Wrongs Patiently

Forgive all Injuries

Pray for the Living and the Dead

Journal Reflections



When have I been ministered to by someone by a spiritual work of mercy? How did I feel?

When have I ministered to another through a spiritual work of mercy? How did I feel?

How can I engage in one of these spiritual works of mercy that I have never explored before in my life?



THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY:

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead

Journal Reflections

In which of these works have I never engaged?

The Corporal Work of mercy that most challenges me is...

I do not think I could ever...

If I were to add another work of mercy it would be....



Mercy in the City:

*How to Feed the Hungry,
Give Drink to the Thirsty,
Visit Imprisoned,
and Keep Your Day Job.*



Journal Reflections

Kerry says that city living can make you stop seeing Christ in people. What part of your daily experience may be causing you not to see Christ in people?

It takes work to see Christ in people. Do you feel as though you are “putting in the work?”

What does it mean to say that “mercy is a whole new way of life?”

Even the smallest acts of mercy matter. What was a small act of mercy that someone recently performed for you? How and why did it matter?

What can you do today to help someone know that he or she doesn't have to “go it alone?”

Let's take a break!

Gospel of Matthew:

4:12 – 25

5:1 – 48

6:1 – 34

7:1 – 28

8:1 – 34

9:1 – 38

10:1 – 11:1

13:1 – 53

17:1 – 27

18:1 – 19:1

24:45 – 26:2

Scenarios

1. Someone in your group please read the scenario aloud for all to hear.
2. Pause for a few moments to allow group members to reflect upon the situation.
3. Take a few moments to jot down some thoughts.
4. Engage in table sharing.