1. Kingdom Priorities
   a) What did Jesus have in mind when He commanded His disciples to “seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness”? Matthew 6:25–33
   b) Why is showing mercy to others such an important characteristic of a follower of Jesus? Luke 6:36
   c) What important lesson can we learn from the illustration of Jesus at the conclusion of His great Sermon on the Mount? Matthew 7:24–27
   d) What options are available to us when kingdom priorities conflict with human laws? Acts 5:29
   e) What wonderful promise is found in James 1:5–8 for those who are committed to live as citizens of the kingdom of God in this present age?
   f) Share a time when God gave you wisdom and courage to honor Him in a potentially compromising situation

2. Generosity as a way of showing mercy
   a) Leviticus 25:35–37
   b) 1 Timothy 6:17–19
   c) 1 John 3:16–18
   d) What are some ways to be generous besides giving money?
   e) Think of a story in the ministry of Jesus which illustrates a generous spirit (not necessarily dependent on the amount given)
   f) Share a time when someone showed mercy to you by demonstrating a generous spirit.
   g) When did God impress you to be generous as a way of showing mercy? How did you respond?

3. Peacemaking as a way of showing mercy
   a) Matthew 5:9 What type of peacemaking is Jesus referring to here?
   b) Isaiah 52:7
   c) How does your ministry to others as a peacemaker demonstrate your love for mercy?
   d) Share a time when God gave you the opportunity to serve as a peacemaker

4. Speaking up for and helping those in need
   a) Psalm 146:9
   b) Isaiah 58:6–7
   c) James 1:27
   d) When do you see Jesus caring for widows and orphans, speaking up for and helping those in need?
   e) Who has inspired you as one who speaks up for and helps those in need?
   f) What are some ways you can demonstrate the love and mercy of God in your community?
   g) How can our capacity to love mercy expand?