MERCY IN THE MAYHEM

Joel 2:18-32

We can have <u>hope</u> in God because we can <u>trust</u> in the <u>character</u> of God, and in the <u>word</u> of God!

The LORD GOD is MERCIFUL

- His mercy is <u>SACRED</u> (2:18-20)
- His mercy is <u>SOVEREIGN</u> (2:21-27)
- His mercy <u>SAVES</u> (2:28-32)

"And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (2:32)



further up, further in

- What aspect of God's mercy encourages you most in your life? (i.e. sacred, sovereign, saves)
- How has God's mercy impacted your life? What passages in scripture come to mind when you think about God's mercy? (Ephes 2:4-5, Rom 5:8, 11:30-33, Matt 5:3,7, 2 Peter 3:9, Lam 3:22-23)
- How do you understand God's sacred mercy? Do you see yourself as God's "heritage", "his inheritance"? How should this encourage us to honor God in a world that doesn't? (Joel 2:18-20, Ps 106:5, Deut. 6:1-6)
- 4. "<u>Rejoice</u>, and <u>be glad</u>, for <u>the LORD has done great things</u>..." (Joel 2:21) Take some time to share and consider this declaration in your own life. What does that look like?
- 5. Read Joel 2:25. Who, and what circumstances in your life come to mind when you think about God "restoring lost years"?
- 6. How does God's sovereign mercy comfort you? (Joel 2:27, Ps.145:8-9, Isaiah 43:5, Heb 4:1)
- 7. What does it mean to "call on the name of the LORD"? Why is this a struggle for most? What thoughts come to mind when thinking about "the Day of the LORD," God's final judgment? (Joel 2:32)

"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now.... Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, <u>The Last Battle</u>