

***Norwalk Seventh-day
Adventist Church***

*12191 Firestone Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650
562-863-0614*

*A family walking together in Christ
Building bridges with God's greatest love.*



“Have Mercy”

Matthew 18:15-16

Pastor P. L Baptiste

Pastor & Presenter

Sabbath, February 26, 2022

The Church At Worship

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| <i>Musical Prelude</i> | <i>Musician</i> |
| <i>Welcome & Announcements</i> | <i>Eric Ocker</i> |
| <i>Call to Worship</i> | <i>Eric Ocker</i> |
| <i>Invocation</i> | <i>Pastor P.L. Baptiste</i> |
| <i>Musical Praise</i> | <i>Praise Team</i> |

Welcome Song: We Have Come into This Place

Worship Song: How Great Is Our God

Praise Song: Hallelujah

Prayer Song: Welcome Holy Spirit

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| <i>Garden of Prayer</i> | <i>Goody Izima</i> | |
| <i>Children Story</i> | <i>Eric Ocker</i> | |
| <i>Offering Song:</i> | <i>Give and it Will Come Back to You</i> | |
| <i>Tithe & Offering</i> | <i>Rudy Valencia</i> | |
| <i>Scripture Reading</i> | <i>Matthew 18:15-16</i> | <i>Eric Ocker</i> |
| <i>Music of Meditation</i> | <i>Andrew Harris</i> | |
| <i>Sermon</i> | <i>Pastor P.L. Baptiste</i> | |

“Have Mercy!”

Matthew 18:15-16

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| <i>Closing Hymn</i> | <i>He lives</i> | <i># 251</i> |
| <i>Prayer & Benediction</i> | <i>Pastor P.L. Baptiste</i> | |
| <i>End of Service</i> | <i>When We All Get to Heaven</i> | <i># 633</i> |

City of Norwalk Sunset Times

Sunset Today 5:46 P.M.

Sunset Next Friday 5:51 P.M.

Welcome to Norwalk SDA Church

Welcome

We welcome our guests to our church service today. May you have the desire to return.

Article

(The following is not necessarily related to the Pastor's Sermon)

At its core, mercy is forgiveness. The Bible speaks of God's love for sinners – that is, for all of us. But the Bible also relates mercy to other qualities beyond love and forgiveness.

So, how can we begin to understand the true meaning of mercy?

Mercy in the Hebrew Bible

Christians usually understand the “Hebrew Bible” as the “Old Testament,” which is replaced by the “New Testament” of Jesus Christ as found in the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

How Christianity has interpreted the Hebrew Bible, often not fully appreciating its Jewish context, continues to be a matter of scholarly debate. But many Christians see connections between themes expressed in the “Old Testament” and Christ's later teachings about the importance of mercy.

The Hebrew Bible

In the Hebrew Bible, there is a cluster of related words that are often translated as “mercy,” depending upon where they appear in the text. There is “ahavah,” which refers to God's enduring love for Israel, much like the love between husband and wife. Then there is “Rachamim,” which comes from the root word “rechem,” or womb, and therefore might be more literally understood as suggesting a “maternal connection” between God and human beings.

In a famous passage from Psalm 85 that speaks of the Israelites' return from exile, it is said that when “mercy and truth have met together, righteousness and peace have kissed.”

“Chesed,” the word translated as “mercy” in this verse, additionally suggests God's quality of “steadfast loyalty.” The psalm thus relates steadfastness and mercy with “truth” – in Hebrew “emet” – which means behaving ethically and being faithful to God's will.

Norwalk SDA Church

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Announcements Continued

Floral Arrangement: The floral arrangement today is donated by Connie Cisneros. If you would like to donate floral arrangement for a particular Sabbath, please contact Emily Moran or Susuky Flores.

Prayer Meeting: Prayer Meeting this Wednesday evening on Zoom. Logon information: <https://zoom.us/j/96474409210>

Pathfinder club classes is at 2:00 P.M. today and on Sunday.

Thought From This Week's Sabbath School Lesson

In the ancient Near East, a covenant between two persons or nations was a serious matter. It involved an exchange of promises under oath. It implied the assumption that the gods would punish those who broke the oath. Often, these covenants were ratified through the sacrifice of an animal. When God made a covenant with Abraham, the ceremony involved cutting animals in half.

The parties would walk between the parts as an acknowledgment that those animals represented the fate of the party who broke the covenant. Significantly, only God walked between the animals, for the purpose of communicating to Abraham that He will not break His promise.

