Introduction: In attempting to understand what mercy is, it will probably help us to also consider God's grace.

1. THE GIFT OF GRACE:

- a. Grace is divine participation in human weakness:
- b. Grace functions in two basic ways:
 - 1) It provides the ability to accomplish what we can't our own (2 Cor. 12:7-10).
 - 2) It provides salvation where salvation cannot be earned (Ephesians 2:8-9).

2. THE CALL OF MERCY:

- a. Mercy calls us to bless others in ways they don't deserve.
- b. Mercy functions in two basic ways:
 - 1) It calls us to forgive the unforgivable (Matthew 18:21-35).
 - 2) It calls us to love the unlovable (Luke 6:27-36).

CONCLUSION: Mercy is kindness gone crazy.