

# ***Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles***

December 18, 2024 – Ministry to the Lord: Our Highest Privilege & Calling – Erlinda Cruz

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## ***Ministry to the Lord: Our Highest Privilege and Calling (Day 9)***

### **The Glory of God's Emotions (Exodus 34:6)**

1. God offers us a new start every day if we will repent of our compromises.

“Through the LORD’s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.”

Lamentations 3:22-23

2. God’s mercy in giving us forgiveness is far beyond anything we can compare it with.

“Let the wicked forsake his way... let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him... for He will abundantly pardon. For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways... For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

Isaiah 55:7-9

The Lord is gracious: He does not give us what we deserve. He is generous in how He evaluates our weak efforts to obey and serve Him. He remembers our frailty and does not reject us because of our weakness. We can be surprised and exasperated by our weakness, but God is not.

“He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities... For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.”

Psalms 103:10-14

He graciously rewards us for every movement of our heart and act of obedience (Mt. 10:42; Heb. 6:10). This dignifies every day of our life. Our small and seemingly insignificant acts of obedience are remembered and rewarded by God though they are weak, flawed, and imperfect.

The Lord is longsuffering: He bears long with us instead of “writing us off.” God suffers long with our sinful responses to Him. He does not lose enthusiasm for us when we fail. His love for us is greater than the sadness we cause Him in the times when we intentionally resist Him.

“Do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?”

Romans 2:4

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The Lord is abounding in goodness: He overflows with good plans for us. The song that is recorded most often in Scripture is “The Lord is good, His mercy endures forever” (1 Chr. 16:34, 41; 2 Chr. 5:13; 7:3, 6; 20:21; Ezra 3:11; Jer. 33:11). God will not withhold His best from us in relationships, ministry assignments, finances (Ps. 84:11).

Whose name is Jealous: God has emotion to protect His people and His relationship with them.

God proclaiming God’s name: Jesus referred to Moses’ experience when promising to declare God’s name or personality to awaken love in us. Paul also referred to this experience in Moses’ life (2 Cor. 3).

The “beholding and becoming” principle teaches us that whatever emotions we behold (by study and meditation) about God’s heart for us are imparted to our heart for God. When God wants to empower us to love Him, He reveals Himself as the One who loves us.

“I [Jesus] have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them...”

John 17:26

“Beholding... the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image...”

2 Corinthians 3:18

Created in His image, we become like Him as we behold Him. Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith...