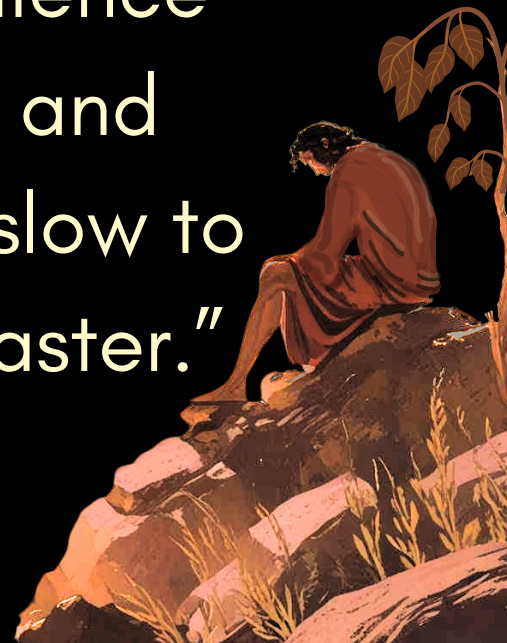


## Joel 2:12-13 ESV

12 "Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; 13 and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

God calls His people to return to Him after a season of disobedience and discipline. We are commanded to come to Him in humility and hope. Joel reminds you that your God is "gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster."

What a wonderful reminder today.



## Romans 9:15 ESV

15 For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

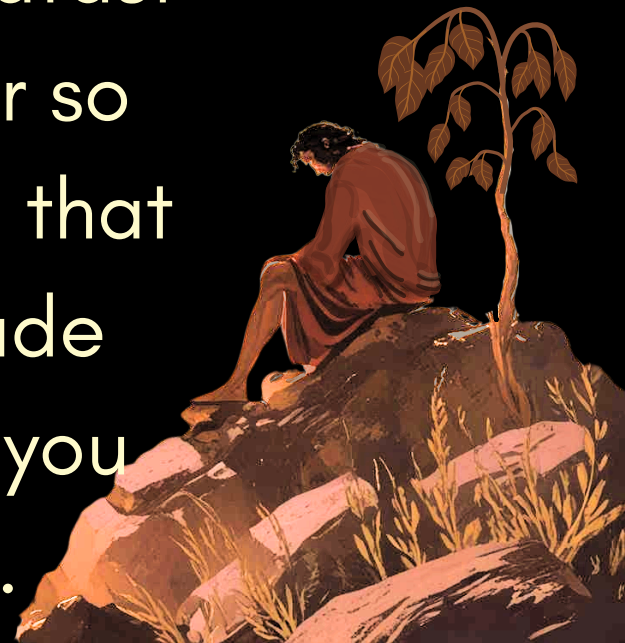
You may struggle to understand God's character and how, why, when, and to whom He is merciful. It is His determination, alone. Take a moment and praise God for being merciful and for showing you mercy.



## Jeremiah 9:23–24 ESV

23 Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, 24 but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord."

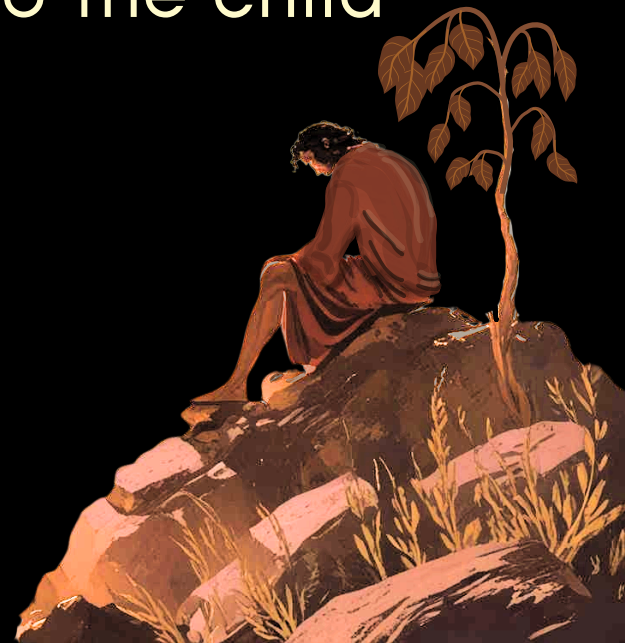
There is honor and blessing in declaring God's practice of steadfast love, justice, and righteousness. Take a moment and remember so that you, too, can declare that your hope is in God. Praise God that He has shown you love faithfully, dealt with you justly, and made you His righteousness. Through His word and your experience, you can boast in some understanding of God and His goodness.



## Proverbs 9:10 ESV

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

Growing in your understanding of God's power, holiness, mercy, and kindness is a wonderful thing in which to grow. Plead for God to grow you in knowing His might and mercy. Find Him in His Word and in His work in and with you. Fear and knowledge of God is a great reward to the child of God!



## Proverbs 3:5–6 ESV

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

You have experienced crooked paths of discipline that are the work of God to correct you and cause you to trust Him, lean upon Him, and acknowledge Him. Reject any thoughts of trusting, leaning, or acknowledging yourself and grow in trusting in God. Wisdom is knowing God and living in response to what you know. Today is a great day to declare your full trust in God.

