Connect Group Study Aug 09

"Heart for the House Series"

God's Mercy Seat

Read Exod 25:20-22..No doubt, the centrepiece of the OT was the Ark of the Covenant, the lid of which, formed God's Mercy Seat. It was the Ark which literally housed the presence of God.

It was placed in the Tabernacle, carried by God's people and ultimately, positioned in the Temple. It was central to everything God's people did.

The fantastic news for us is this, that as believers, **we now live under God's new covenant** where His presence, along with all His benefits, now abides **WITHIN us**.

No longer confined to an object or a place, His **mercy** (meaning atonement, reconciliation) and His **grace**, now cover us totally and completely, bringing with it favour and blessing into every area of our lives.

In fact, Churches, marriages, families and people that are flourishing, are the ones living under grace

DISCUSS the following statements regarding GRACE and MERCY in your life.

- Grace sees what can be what is in Christ...Law always sees lack
- Grace unifies...Law separates
- Mercy brings forgiveness from sin...Grace brings favour and blessing
- Mercy deals with what you did...Grace gives you what you didn't deserve

Now DISCUSS some of the qualities (and a Scripture) **that relates to your life as a disciple of Jesus Christ....***In other words, God's Grace & Mercy now gives us...*

- **Provision** *Phil 4:13*
- **Protection** *Psalm 18:2*
- **Promises** *2 Cor 1:20*
- **Presence** *Exod 33 Joshua's passion for God's presence*
- **Peace** *Jn 14:27*
- **Power** *Acts 1:8*
- **A reason to Praise** *Ps 40:3*

PRAYER!

COMING UP: Check out www.generation.org for full details...

NEW ONLINE CONNECT REPORTING

Connect Group Leaders: For all Connect Group reporting, please now click onto 'CONNECT GROUP LEADERS REPORTS" on the Connect Group page at www.generation.org

MISSIONS: GIVING FOCUS for AUGUST - 'THAILAND'

Each month, as part of Generation Global Care, all our Connect Groups sow into a specific focus area.

Connect Leaders: Could you please collect and place your marked envelope mission offering in the church offering.