1 Introduction

What is the most important quality of a teacher today? There are many teachers who have good qualities and talents in their teaching. Some of them have excellent abilities to motivate students in the classes that they teach. Some teachers have great teaching methods and skills so that they can draw out students’ interests and bring out them positive outcomes in the classes.

However, one of the most important elements of Christian teachers, in terms of quality, is to have mercy or compassion toward their students in their teaching. There are a lot of students who have a different life background in one class. Some of them probably need some help from the teacher because they do
not fully achieve their educational goals in the classes. In this situation, teachers’ mercy toward students could become a great motivation to deeply interact with their students. For Christian teachers, having a mercy for the students is very important in that it can be a motivation to help their students as Jesus, the master teacher, did in Scripture.

This study will explore what the Bible says about mercy as an important quality of Christian teachers at the conclusion of the theological survey portion of the paper. It will identify the roles of empathy which will then be used to expound the findings of some empirical studies regarding empathy as important qualities of teachers. The first step is to explore what the Bible says about mercy in both the Old Testament and the New Testament.

2 Theological Survey on Mercy as an Important Quality of Christian Teachers

It is necessary to define the major terms in order to clarify theological meanings for this study. Mercy is defined as “God’s goodness toward those in misery and distress.”
