

*Note: The following poem was shared during the Georgian Court University students' presentation at the CMHE Symposium in June. The students spoke about the Mercy Collegiate Society and their experiences of Mercy.*

Mercy where are you?

I can't seem to find you anywhere but in my heart.

Mercy where are you?

This world has become so dark, becoming consumed by the shadows as darkness rips it apart.

Mercy where are you?

Children are starving, many are dying as we continue to stuff our faces with greed.

Villages and churches destroyed as we do nothing but plant hate's seeds, *How can this be?*

How can we be blind to injustice yet still be able to see?

Mercy where are you?

Did Catherine envision THIS to be her dream? Flicking past the injustice on the news only to watch our favorite sports team?

Mercy where are you?

It's so hard to remain happy when so much evil is ignored.

So hard to remain composed when unjustified deaths are constantly knocking on my hearts door.

How can our faith stay intact? How can our hope be restored?

Mercy where are you?

My heart feels alone you're nowhere in sight, wishing to continue Catherine's fight.

Knowing our only hope is to unite.

You see we hear of all the struggles, of all the oppression.

We rally, we fight, we come up with minor suggestion,

Yet no implementation, no real motivation, and it is completely devastating.

We applaud others who change the world, as if the same issues don't lie dormant on our laps.

What keeps us from action? Is it Catherine's motivation that we lack?

See our millennium goals have not yet been achieved, yet reaching them is tangible it is no longer just a dream.

Mercy where are you?

Some place that is concealed from me? Is it hidden in the hearts of those who would rather be ripped apart at the seams than to have another motherless child grieve over a whole family lost to HIV.

Mercy where are you?

Perhaps I see you in the faces of the Sisters that have dedicated their lives to defend those whose voices go unheard

My feelings are so mixed and stirred.

And my tears of passion make everything a blur.

Mercy where are you?

I've been lost for so long only to be found in the melody of a beautiful song.

You see the circle of mercy is timeless.

It is my duty to write this.

To express the importance of letting mercy in, because it is not just timeless like a circle it ends only to begin again.

Mercy I have found you,

In my heart, in my soul,

Mercy I have found you and now I am home.

*-- Iveliz Crespo, Georgian Court University*

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