

“Blessed Are The Merciful”
Matthew 5: 7

The Beatitudes

¹ *Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them, saying:*

³ *“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

⁴ *Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.*

⁵ *Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.*

⁶ *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness,
for they will be filled.*

⁷ *Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.*

⁸ *Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.*

⁹ *Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called sons of God.*

¹⁰ *Blessed are those who are persecuted
because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

¹¹ *“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

Matthew 5: 1-12 (NIV)

Matthew 5:7

Questions for personal or small group study and reflection:

1. How has receiving or giving mercy affected you in your life? Think of a time when you received this undeserved grace.
2. Give an example of how you have seen an act of mercy lead to even more mercy given to others in return.
3. What are some possible risks that you may face when you extend mercy to others?
4. Read over/contemplate the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) and the Parable of the Unmerciful Servant (Matt. 18:21-35). How is mercy shown or not shown in these passages? What may the Lord be speaking to you about?
5. Who can you show mercy and compassion to this week? Pray that you will continue to experience God's mercy upon your life so that you can express this same mercy to others.