

Study Guide
The Radical Joy of God
Matt. 5:7

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

A. Showing Mercy in Offense

1. Share of a time when you were personally hurt or offended by someone else. How did you deal with that? How could showing mercy change the dynamics of such an experience? Why is showing mercy so hard at times?

2. Discuss the dangers of not showing mercy.

James 2:13- *"For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."*

Matt. 18:21-35- The story of the unforgiving servant.

3. How does the life of Christ influence our perspective on mercy?

Titus 3:5- *"According to His mercy He saved us."*

Rom. 5:8- *"While we were still sinners Christ died for us."*

Share a time when you were able to forgive and let go of hurt.

(see application)

B. Showing Mercy in Poverty

Read Micah 6:8. *"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."*

How can living beyond ourselves, help us to see people from God's perspective?

How can we show mercy to those less fortunate (especially those close to us)?

Discuss.

Application

1. Acknowledge the gift of God's mercy in your own life.

2. Pray for God to reveal those whom you need to show mercy to.

3. Forgive those who have offended you.

4. Be genuine about it. Seek reconciliation when possible.

Message Slides
Hunger for Righteousness
Matthew 5:7

Ladder graphic to show progression

Big Idea- "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

A. Mercy is...

Eleemon- compassion; a "*pouring out...*"

Mercy is God's active and thoughtful reaction to our misery! Strong's
>on mouse click<

Titus 3:5- "According to His mercy He saved us."

Rom. 5:8- "While we were [*undeserving*] sinners Christ died for us."

B. Showing Mercy in Offense

Big Idea- "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

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James 2:13

"For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

C. Showing Mercy in Poverty

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."