

NORMS FOR THE KINGDOM:
“Blessed Are the Merciful”
Matthew 5:7

1. Mercy & Forgiveness

How does mercy differ from forgiveness?

2. Mercy & Grace

How does mercy differ from grace?

3. The Reason for Mercy

Other questions regarding mercy

Why should we be merciful?

How are we to show mercy?

What does it mean, “shall receive mercy”?

Application

Life Group Questions
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Opener: Share a time when you were let off the hook. How did that make you feel?

1. Review the first four Beatitudes (Mt 5:2–6). How does this Beatitude (Mt 5:7) build on the first four?
2. Define mercy. What is the opposite? How is it the same or different from forgiveness and grace?
3. Can you show mercy without demonstrating forgiveness? How so? Can you forgive someone without showing mercy? How so?
4. What is the relationship between the mercy we receive from God and the mercy we show to others? (Read Romans 5:8)
5. Read Matthew 18:21–35—The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant
 - What does this teach us about God?
 - What does this teach us about humanity?
 - What is the lesson for us in the story?
 - In refusing to be merciful to others, what do we deny ourselves?
6. Read Psalm 25:6; 40:11; 69:16; 103:4, 8; 119:77; 145:9.
 - What do these verses tell you about the mercy of God?
 - Why should you be merciful?
7. Who do you find it hard to forgive? What kind of actions do people do that you find hard to forgive?

Memory Verses: Matthew 5:3–7 ESV

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

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger & thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

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