

Oct. 28, 2018

The Sermon on the Mount - Week 6

Matthew 5:7 NIV *Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.*

I. Steps in the Christian journey.

The poor in spirit

Those who mourn

The meek

Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness

The merciful

II. Definition:

A heartfelt compassion that is expressed in a tangible expression.

III. Mercy and Grace: Sisters

Mercy - Not getting what we deserve (punishment).

Grace - Getting what we don't deserve.

God's Reward At Christ Expense

Ephesians 2:4- 5 NLT But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

IV. Three Aspects of Mercy:

A. Not getting what we deserve (punishment) *Psalms 103.*

B. Not giving others what they might deserve (but forgiving them instead).

C. Having compassion and doing tangible things for people who are hurting or suffering.

V. Why be merciful:

A. Because God is merciful. *Lamentations 3:22-23 NLT*
22 The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. 23 Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.

Luke 6:36 NIV Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

B. Because we are representatives of God.

2 Corinthians 5:20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

Romans 8:10 But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

C. Because we get blessed. *Matthew 5:7*

VI. How to maintain a merciful spirit:

A. Admit your need for mercy - confess your sin to God.

B. Accept mercy from God.

C. Extend mercy to others - Forgive anyone you may be resenting. Extend to others the mercy God has extended to you.