

Blessings: The Blessing of Mercy

Matthew 5:7

Opening Discussion:

1. When you get pulled over for speeding, do you hope the officer lets you off the hook? Do you feel the same way about the guy who speeds by you?
2. Why do you think we want mercy for ourselves but sometimes don't want to show mercy to others?
3. When has someone shown you mercy?
4. Where do we see opportunities to show mercy in the course of our lives?

Those who show mercy will receive mercy.

Overview:

- The blessing statements are spiritually progressive.
- Statements 1-4 deal mostly with our vertical relationship with God.
- Statements 5-7 address our horizontal relationships with others.

The Fourth Blessing Statement

1. The merciful

Matthew 9:11-13 (12:7,

11 Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners? 12 But when he heard it, he said, Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 13 Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.

Matthew 23:23

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness.

2. They shall receive mercy

Matthew 7:2

For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you.

Matthew 6:14

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Fill in the Blank Answers

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The Fourth Blessing Statement: merciful, mercy