



Blessed Are the Merciful

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

Matthew 23:27
"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean."

I. Mercy Defined

- Mercy is not just _____ a need but _____ a need.

Mercy: Sympathy manifested in action.

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

- Choosing _____ is choosing _____.
- To refuse to show mercy is to _____ a bridge over which we ourselves must sooner or later pass.

James 2:13
...because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!

II. The Mystery of Mercy

- Mercy is not just a good _____ for a believer but is a byproduct of being a believer.

Ephesians 2:4-9
But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹not by works, so that no one can boast.

- In _____, God will love us when we don't need mercy anymore; in _____, love funnels down to us through mercy and mercy narrows down to forgiveness.
- Being merciful to _____ does not mean they will be merciful back.

- Being merciful is not a _____ to merit mercy from _____.

We don't give to get, but in giving we get.

Proverbs 11:17
A kind man benefits himself, but a cruel man brings trouble on himself.

III. The Practice of Mercy

- A. I am merciful when I meet _____.

II Chronicles 28:14-15
So the soldiers gave up the prisoners and plunder in the presence of the officials and all the assembly. ¹⁵The men designated by name took the prisoners, and from the plunder they clothed all who were naked. They provided them with clothes and sandals, food and drink, and healing balm. All those who were weak they put on donkeys. So they took them back to their fellow countrymen at Jericho, the City of Palms, and returned to Samaria.

- B. I am merciful when I _____ to _____.

Matthew 6:12
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

- C. I am merciful when I take _____ on the _____.

Acts 7:54-60
When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶"Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." ⁵⁷At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

- D. I am merciful when I _____ the _____.
(II Timothy 2:24-25)

- Prodding is having the courage to _____ sin in order that God may _____ from sin.

- E. I am merciful when I _____ for those in need.

- Praying for those in need _____ God's _____ toward them.

- F. I am merciful when I _____ to those in need.
(Romans 10:14-15)

- Preaching the _____ is the most _____ thing we can do.