

Beatitudes: The Merciful

Matthew 5:7



**Blessed are the merciful, for they shall
receive mercy**

- **A Picture of the Merciful**
- **Why That Picture (Often) Isn't Us**
- **The Promise to the Merciful**
- **Becoming Merciful**

A Picture of the Merciful

- Mercy: Compassion toward someone's misery plus action to help
 - Feeling PLUS action
 - Sympathy becomes mercy when compassion turns into action
 - Mercy is aimed at misery, regardless of where the misery comes from

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Why That Picture (Often) Isn't Us

- Fear: If I live this way, people will take advantage of me
- Fear: If I try to help, I'll do more harm than good
- Pride: They got themselves into this mess (and I didn't get myself into it), why can't they be more like me?
- Busyness

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The Promise to the Merciful

- They will be shown mercy
- In eternity, living in resurrection bodies in the New Heavens and New Earth free of misery
- Here and now, God raises up people to show mercy to the merciful

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Becoming Merciful

- If we truly understand the mercy Jesus shows us on the cross, we will be merciful to others
- 3 Steps:
 1. Meditate on the gospel
 2. Pray to be more merciful
 3. Try it out

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