Adult and Teen Life Groups

Conferencing Guide

Sermon date: 10/05/2025   
Discussion Date: 10/12/2025  
Text: Matthew 5:7

Happy are the merciful

1. a manifestation
2. The Meaning
3. The source
4. The practice
5. The merciful seek to meet physical needs.
6. The merciful seek to meet spiritual needs.
7. The Results
8. The merciful are blessed.
9. The merciful receive mercy.

FOR CONFERENCING

1. **Read Matthew 5:3-7.** Consider what you know about the religious and political leaders in Jesus’ day. How were their lives in conflict with Jesus’ beatitudes (how did they contradict them)? Are the attributes in the beatitudes inner qualities or outward characteristics? Did the Pharisees have an external religion or was its focus on the inner man? Although Jesus’ focus in these beatitudes was on the inner man, did He care about His disciples’ actions and behavior? What can you offer to support your answer? Now look over the rest of Jesus’ sermon on the Mount (chapters 5-7). Was most of the rest of the sermon focused on inner characteristics or an outward manifestation of them? What can you offer to support your answer?
2. **Read Matthew 5:7.** This fifth beatitude is also an inner attitude but clearly results in an outward manifestation. (i.e. mercy reaches out and touches others.) Is this somewhat of a transition in the beatitudes? Does it seem like the last 4 beatitudes are a manifestation of the first four? How would you explain your answer? How can you illustrate your answer?
3. There are three Greek words that are translated as “mercy” in our English Bibles. The one in verse 7 means to give help, or to support, or to rescue. It can be defined as extending a compassionate and helping hand toward those who are needy and despairing. How did Jesus display this during His earthly ministry? **Read Luke 10:25-37.** How does Jesus’ parable of the Good Samaritan demonstrate mercy? What did the Samaritan do and what did it cost him?
4. **Read Ephesians 2:4-5.** What is God's abundance of mercy and kindness a result of? **Read Ephesians 3:14-21.** What things are manifested when the believer is *“filled with all the fullness of God?”*
5. Last Sunday, Pastor spoke of “the practice of mercy.” What are some practical ways we can seek to meet people’s physical needs? What are some practical ways we can seek to help people with their spiritual needs?
6. According to Matthew 5:7, what are the results of being merciful? What did Jesus mean when He said the merciful obtain mercy? In other words, how does our own need for mercy from God connect to the mercy we show and what does this verse imply about the relationship between God's mercy toward us and our mercy toward others? What is the cycle that takes place?

1. How does being poor in spirit and meek lead to a merciful heart?