

The Big Idea: To show mercy to those in need is to demonstrate the heart of God. Mercy is what we have received, mercy is what we are called to give.

I. The Beatitudes

- A. SEQUENCE is important
- B. CHRISTLIKENESS on display
- C. FOCUS shifts

II. Blessings on the merciful

A. The MEANING of mercy

1. Definition

2. Distinction

- GRACE
  
- MERCY

B. The IMPORTANCE of mercy

1. How does a HEART become merciful?

2. What is a merciful person LIKE?

C. The DEMONSTRATION of mercy

1. Mercy sees someone who is in NEED

2. Mercy is moved by a heart of COMPASSION

3. Mercy responds OUTWARDLY to relieve the distress

4. Mercy acts without considering the RELATIONSHIP to the one in need

D. The PROMISE to the merciful

1. It is NOT...

- A promise of mercy RETURNED
  
- A system of salvation by WORKS

2. It IS...

- A promise for the FUTURE

III. What we take away...

If you're having trouble showing mercy, it's likely you need a closer look at yourself and your own desperate need before God.