



#release

July 27 & 28, 2013

[Matthew 5:7](#)

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. (Matt 5:7 NIV)

Consider & Discuss

1. Can you think of any examples of someone showing mercy? Which ones are most meaningful to you?
2. How would you define mercy?
3. Do you think our society sees mercy as positive, negative, or mixed? Why?
4. What are some of the obstacles to showing mercy?
5. Do you think mercy and justice inherently conflict with one another? If so, why? If not, how would you reconcile them?
6. Do you agree or disagree with the idea that we can become more merciful by embracing the mercy God has shown us? If you agree, how would you explain that concept to someone who isn't convinced?
7. What suggestions do you have for someone who wants to become more merciful?

Live It

1. Personalize the Beatitudes by rewriting them in the first person (e.g., "I'm blessed when I'm merciful . . .").
2. Meditate on God's mercy. Take the time to think realistically about your sin and brokenness. Then spend some time thinking and praying about the mercy and love Jesus showed you when He died for your sins.
3. Each day this week ask God to give you a greater appreciation for the mercy He has shown you, and ask Him to transform your heart so that you'll be eager to show mercy to people in need.