YOUR MINISTRY OF MERCY The Keys to a Blessed Life (8 Beatitudes) – Part 5

Matthew 5:7 "God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

WHY BE MERCIFUL TO OTHERS?

1. God has
 Ephesians 2:4-5 "God's mercy is so abundant, and his love for us is so great that while we were spiritually dead in our disobedience, he brought us to life with Christ. It is by God's grace you have been saved." Matthew 18:33 (NLT) "Shouldn't you have mercy on others, just as I had mercy or you?"
2. God commands
Micah 6:8 "God has told you what is good and what he requires from you, to do what is right with others, to love being merciful to others, and to live humbly in fellowship with God." Hosea 6:6 "I don't want your sacrifices! I want you to be merciful!"
3. I'm going to need
James 2:13 (NCV) "You must show mercy to others, or God won't show mercy to youBut the person who shows mercy can stand without fear at the judgment."
4. Showing mercy brings
Proverbs 14:21 (TEV) "If you want to be happy, be kind to those in need; it is a sin to despise anyone!" Proverbs 11:17 (GW) "A merciful person helps himself, but a cruel person hurted himself."
HOW DO I BE MERCIFUL?
1. Be patient with
Ephesians 4:2 (LB) "Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love." James 2:13 "The man who makes no allowances for others will find none made fo him." James 3:17 (NLT) "The wisdom that comes from heaven is pure, peace loving gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. Wisdom is full of mercy"
2. Help anyone
Proverbs 3:27 (TEV) "Whenever you possibly can, <u>do good to those who need it</u> ." Romans 12:8 "[When you do] acts of mercy, show mercy with cheerfulness."
3. Give people .

Ephesians 4:31-32 (CEV) "Don't get bitter or angry or use harsh words that hurt each other. Don't <u>yell</u> at one another or <u>curse</u> or ever be <u>rude</u>. Instead, <u>be kind and merciful</u>, and forgive others, just as God forgave you because of Christ."

Luke 6:35-36 (NIV) "Love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because God is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

5. Be kind to those _____

- 1 Timothy 1:13,16 (Paul) "Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief . . . I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for others who'd believe on him and receive eternal life."
- **Jude 1:22-23** (GW/NLT) "Show mercy to those who have doubts. Save others by snatching them from the fire. Show mercy to them, while being careful that you aren't contaminated by their sins."

6. Build bridges of love _____

Matthew 9:10-13 (NLT) "Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to be his dinner guests, along with his fellow tax collectors and many other notorious sinners. The Pharisees were indignant. 'Why does your teacher eat with such scum?' they asked his disciples. When he heard this, Jesus replied, 'Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. Go learn the meaning of the Scripture, "I want you to be merciful; I don't want your sacrifices!" For I have come to call sinners, not those who think they are already good enough."

7. Value relationships _____

- Matthew 12:1-8 (NLT) "Another time Jesus was walking through some grain fields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry, so they began to pick some grain and eat it. Some Pharisees saw this and protested, 'Your disciples are breaking God's law by harvesting grain on the Sabbath!' But Jesus said, 'Haven't you ever read what King David did when he and his soldiers were hungry? He went into the house of God, and they ate the holy bread reserved for the priests? . . You would not have judged these innocent men if you knew the real meaning of the Scripture, "I want you to be merciful. I don't want your sacrifices!" For I am the Lord of the Sabbath!'"
- **Titus 3:5** "It is not by works of righteousness that we have done, but according to his mercy he has saved us."
- **Hebrews 4:16** "Let us approach the throne of grace with confidence for there we will find mercy. Mercy and grace to help us in our time of need."