

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Matthew 5:7 (NIV)

1. WHAT IS IT?

“Put your sword back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?”

Matthew 25:52-53 (NIV)

Grace is giving us something that we don't deserve (salvation, eternal life).

Mercy is not giving us something that we do deserve.

2. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- It reveals.
- It reflects.

Jesus answered, “I tell you not seven times, but seventy times seven.”

Matthew 18:22 (NIV)

“You evil servant! Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?”

Matthew 18:32-33 (NLT)

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at a tax collector's booth.

“Follow me,” he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples.

When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.

But go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’

For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Matthew 9:9-13 (NIV)

3. HOW DO WE DO IT?

“Mercy comes from mercy. Our mercy to each other comes from God's mercy to us.” - John Piper

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

Matthew 5:3 (NIV)

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Matthew 5:4 (NIV)

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Matthew 5:5 (NIV)

And forgive us of our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Matthew 6:12 (ESV)

The forgiveness we offer others is an indication of the forgiveness we have received.