

Blessed
Blessed are the Merciful
Matthew 5:7
Pastor Brian

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

James 2 ¹³ *There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you. (NLT)*

Proverbs 11 ¹⁷ *The merciful man does himself good, but the cruel man does himself harm. (NASB)*

I. How can we be merciful in our daily lives?

1. Forgive someone who has wronged us.

Ephesians 4 ³² *Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. (NIV)*

Matthew 6 ¹⁴ *If you forgive people their sins, your Father in heaven will forgive your sins also. (NIV)*

Action Step:

Forgive the person who doesn't deserve it!

2. Practice patience with those around us.

Ephesians 4 ² *Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. (NLT)*

Galatians 5 ²² *The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, **patience**, kindness, goodness, faithfulness... (NASB)*

3. Help someone in need.

1 John 3 ¹⁷ *But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? (ESV)*

James 3 ¹⁷ *Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead. (NASB)*

4. Be intentionally kind to everyone.

Matthew 7 ¹² *So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. (NIV)*

Matthew 5 ⁴⁴ *But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. (NIV)*

Action Step:

This Christmas, practice the Golden Rule!

5. Tell someone about Jesus.

Mark 16 ¹⁵ *Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. (NLT)*

Matthew 9 ¹⁰ *While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ¹³ But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."*

Action Step:

Invite someone to the Christmas Service.