

# The Blessing of Being Merciful

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

- Matthew 5:7

*“Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.”* - James 2:12,13

- Our natural, human inclination is to give people what we think they deserve and not give them mercy and kindness.
- Does Jesus give us what we deserve?
- *Blessed are the merciful, for they receive and appreciate and pass on God’s mercy to them.*

## The Necessity of Being Forgiving:

### 1. The Unmerciful Servant (Matthew 18:21-35)

- This is a story about us!
- We owe a debt we can never, ever, repay.

### 2. The meaning of the story.

- The point is that God’s forgiveness is ridiculous by human standards.

*“Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?”* - Matthew 18:33

*“This is how my Heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”* - Matthew 18:35

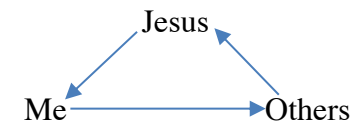
### 3. The Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:12, 14-15)

*“And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”*  
- Matthew 6:12

*“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”* - Matthew 6:14,15

## The Meaning of Mercy

1. The Old Testament word — ( רַחֲמִים – “Ra-cha-min” )
  - “To get inside of someone else” like in a womb (“Re-chem”)
  - To see through their eyes, feel through their heart
2. The New Testament word — ( ελεος – eleos )
  - “mercy, quarter, charity”
  - Pity happens from a distance; mercy is getting close & personal
3. The Cycle of Mercy



## The Christ of Mercy:



I	– Jesus
C	– Christ
Th	– God’s
U	– Son
S	– Saviour

## Application Project:

1. What significant truth about mercy stands out to you?
2. Share an illustration of mercy from the Bible and from life that has meant a lot to you?
3. How does my acceptance of God’s mercy to me affect my mercy to others?
4. What can I do to become more merciful.

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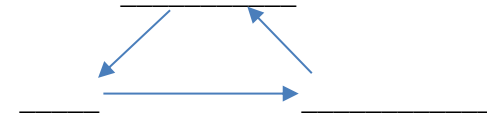
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