

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## TODAY'S VERSES

OUR ELEMENT - Q&A/TIPS

Mercy Full 8 Matthew 5:7

### Introduction

Jesus suffered our wrath and gave us grace because of His great mercy. We do not have to stand before God and justify or vindicate ourselves because Jesus took care of us.

### Discussion

Who would you never want to get into the skin of? Why?

### Explanation

In the sermon, Aaron said, "Satan doesn't force anything on you, he just gives you what you want. It is actually the opposite...God forces grace and transformation on you, Satan gives you what you want: sin and death."

What do you think, agree or disagree?

When have you been shown Mercy?

Have you shown Mercy to others?

### Application - Read Ephesians 2:1-12

Did you feel/believe you were dead before Christ showed you Mercy and Grace?

Read Proverbs 1:7: Why do you think the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge?

### Mission - Read Colossians 3:13 and Romans 5:10

Who do you need to forgive?

We were shown mercy while we were enemies of God, are you willing and able to show mercy to your enemies?

How?

### Homework - Read Luke 18:1-14

How do you act differently in differently settings?

- Matthew 5:7
- Ephesians 2:1-5
- Romans 6:11
- Proverbs 1:7
- Hebrews 2:17-18
- Luke 10:25-37
- 2 Kings 17
- Romans 5:10
- Romans 5:8
- 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Colossians 2:13-15
- John 19:30
- Matthew 6:14-15
- Colossians 3:13



# SERMON

## On The Mount




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# BE BORN AGAIN

# MERCY FULL

**Matthew 5:7** *"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."*

Mercy is an interesting word to trace through the Bible. 'Mercy,' 'merciful' and 'have mercy upon' are translations of several different Hebrew and Greek root words which can also be translated as 'kindness,' 'grace,' or 'favor.'

Mercy embraces both forgiveness for the guilty and compassion for the suffering and needy. Mercy is to be a function of Jesus' disciples, not of the particular situation that calls it forth, which means we are to always be a people of mercy. Our outpouring of mercy is not a reward of mercy shown by others, but by God. This beatitude is tied to the context "it is 'the meek' who are also 'the merciful.'" To be meek is to acknowledge to others that *we* are saved by God's grace; to be merciful is to have compassion on others, for they need God's grace as well.

In the Old Testament mercy is usually translated from the word *hesed*. The word is used nearly 250 times in the Old Testament and is translated predominantly by 'mercy,' but also by 'kindness,' 'loving kindness,' and 'goodness.' Its meaning is: solidarity, kindness, and grace. It denotes devotion to a covenant, and so, of God, His covenant-love (Psalm 89:28).

In the New Testament the meanings of *hesed* are largely combined in *charis*, 'GRACE'. The specific notion of mercy and compassion to one in need or helpless distress (or in debt and without claim to favorable treatment)—is rendered by *eleos* (which is the word in Matthew 5:7). Grace is concerned for man, as guilty; mercy, as he is miserable.

God is called 'the Father of mercies' (2 Corinthians 1:3; Exodus 34:6; Nehemiah 9:17; Psalm 86:15; 103:8-14; Joel 2:13; Jonah 4:2). 'His compassion is over all that he has made' (Psalm 145:9), and it is because of His mercy that we are saved (Ephesians 2:4; Titus 3:5).

Jesus was often 'moved with compassion' and he calls us to be 'merciful, as your Father also is merciful' (Luke 6:36; Matthew 18:21). Christians are to put on 'heartfelt compassion' (Colossians 3:12).



*Ephesians 2:1-5 "And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved"*

**But God, being rich in mercy** - Mercy is *Eleos*, the same word as Matthew 5:7.

Over against man's rejection of God, Paul sets God's gracious acceptance of man in Christ. God's does not approve of sin, but He is still not hostile toward those He has created. He loves His children and has made possible their reconciliation to Himself. Had he decided to destroy His children, He would have been entirely justified, and nothing could have averted the catastrophe (Hosea 13:9). Instead, love led to "mercy" (*eleos*). God's compassion for the helpless, issuing in action for their relief.

The same word can be used of men, but in the New Testament it has a special reference to what God does in Christ. There is an inexhaustible treasury of such mercy in the heart of God.

What Paul wants to say in the opening paragraph of Ephesians 2 is that God "made us alive with Christ." Here Paul declares that when they were spiritually dead in transgressions, God gave them new life together with Christ. This is not the language of mysticism, but of fact. The life Christians now possess is an effect of which Christ's resurrection was the cause.

## CHURCH FAMILY MEETING

Sunday, March 30th, 2pm  
*What is coming for Element...*

## EKIDS! MIDNIGHT BASH

This Friday, 7pm-12am, \$10  
Grades 4-6th - Meet at Element

## QUIZ BOWL

Friday, March 28th, 6-10pm  
[info@ourelement.org](mailto:info@ourelement.org)

SEE ALL UPCOMING  
ACTIVITIES  
[ourelement.org/events](http://ourelement.org/events)

