

# MATT 5:7 - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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## BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL - ([SERMON MP3](#))

**Mercy has both a spiritual component and a practical component.** It takes us from the Mercy seat to the Mercy street. Read the following passages and jot down some thoughts about the spiritual and the practical side of mercy.

☀ *Thoughts on Spiritual Mercy (Ex. 25:17-21; Lev. 16:13-15)*

☀ *Thoughts on Practical Mercy (Deut. 15:8-9; Luke 10:30-35; Prov. 14:21)*

**Look at the following case studies and describe how each of the characters demonstrated mercy.** What can we learn about mercy from their lives? Can you think of any other biblical examples of mercy?

☀ *Abraham toward Lot (Gen. 13:5-11; 14:8-16)*

☀ *Joseph toward his brothers (Gen. 37:20-28; 42:25; 44:1)*

☀ *Moses toward Miriam (Num. 12:1, 10, 8)*

**Why is mercy so important?** Study the following passages and write out one sentence that summarizes the overarching principle, and explains why mercy is imperative (2Sam 22:26; James 2:13; Matt. 6:12,14; Psalm 18:25; Prov. 11:17).

☀ *What is the relationship between mercy and forgiveness? Take some time to study (Matt 18:21-35).*

☀ *What is the plight of the merciless?*

**Should a merciful person always show mercy?**

☀ *Can a Christian be consistently merciful and yet be a parent who disciplines a child for disobedience instead of turning the other cheek to the child's insolence?*

☀ *Can a Christian be consistently merciful and yet be an employer who pays good wages for excellent work but dismisses irresponsible employees who do shoddy work?*

☀ *Can a believer be consistently merciful and yet be a legislator who enacts laws that give stiff penalties for drunk driving and child abuse?*

☀ *Can a Christian be consistently merciful and yet be part of a congregation who follows the biblical mandate for church discipline and excommunicates a member for unforsaken, public sin?<sup>1</sup>*

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<sup>1</sup> This series of questions was taken from "Blessed are the Merciful" by John Piper [www.desiringgod.org](http://www.desiringgod.org) Feb. 23, 1986 (Accessed 11/7/13).

