

**Intro:**

Main Point of Text: Jesus says that those who have the blessed gift of mercy have the blessed gift of sharing mercy.

Sermon Point: *Blessed Mercy Begets Mercy's Blessings.*

**Move 1: *Mercy is not earning for yourself.***

Reception of a gift. “for they shall obtain mercy”: Greek, “have”, describes not merit but reality. Like WLC 194: what we pray for in the 5<sup>th</sup> petition: *Pray You Know Forgiveness*: expression of possession. Forgives because is forgiven (proof of being blessed). Mercy reflects God who “delighteth in mercy” (Micah 7:18). One who shows mercy enjoys being merciful and acting like God. Blesses his own self: Prov. 11:17; Ps. 37:26. And enjoys God’s blessing: Psalm 18:25; James 2:13. *Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.* (Col. 3:12-13)

**Move 2: *Mercy is the extending of yourself.***

Extension of the gift. “Blessed are the merciful.” Sympathetic/Empathetic/Compassion (Good Samaritan).

Physical: Mercy Ministry/Diaconate (Acts 6). ... *he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.* (Prov. 14:21) Poverty is miserable. The merciful pity the poor and help meet their needs caused by sin. But its careful, for we’re all sinners. Mercy is discerning. *A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.* (Ps. 112:5)

Spiritual: What is man’s greatest misery? Sin. Greatest need? Forgiveness. The focus of the most merciful.

Prov. 3:3: *Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart.* Psalm 85:10: *Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.* We see God’s mercy and truth meet together on Christ’s Cross. His sweet kiss tastes of vinegar. Not dealing with sin is actually cruelty, not pity. The merciful spirit makes earnest Gospel effort on a rescue mission.

**Conclusion:**

***Blessed Mercy Begets Mercy's Blessings.***