

- I. In the world, *_mercy_ is _not_ the _norm_* Ex 20:12;
Eph 6:2;
Isa 66:13a
- A. In the *_natural_*, it's all about *_winning_* Gen 4:3-8
- B. Supernatural mercy *_doesn't_* do what's *_natural_*, and *_does_* what isn't
Matt 18:23-35;
Luke 10:30-37;
James 5:11;
Matt 9:27;
John 5:6-15;
Luke 22:50-51;
Luke 23:34
1. Mercy means what you *_owe_*, I let *_go_*
 2. Mercy means I am *_kind_* when you're in a *_bind_*
- II. God showed *_mercy_ _first_* Titus 3:3-6;
Eph 2:3-5
- A. God's *_mercy_* doesn't disregard *_justice_*, He *_pays_* the *_price_* Rom 3:23-26;
I Pet 1:3;
Heb 4:16;
II Tim 1:18;
James 2:13
- B. As mercy *_receivers_*, we're supposed to respond by *_giving_* mercy Matt 16:9-15;
I John 4:19
- III. When Christ *_fills_*, mercy *_flows_* John 7:38-39a
- A. There's a *_supernatural_* *_spirit_* in the house Zech 4:6;
Matt 5:3-6;
Micah 6:8;
II Thess 3:10
- B. When mercy doesn't *_flow_*, back through the *_beatitudes_* we must *_go_* Matt 5:3-6

Care Group Questions

“Man Lift”

Text: Matthew 5:7

Dave Bechtel

May 13, 2007

1. Did you do anything special for Mother’s Day? (Did you have anyone who is not a regular church attendee come with you?) What are some ways we can honor our mothers (and fathers) during the rest of the year? Do you know what the promise connected to the command to honor our fathers and mothers is? (see Ephesians 6:2) Can you explain why that promise makes sense, why its fulfillment would be naturally connected to our obedience, honoring, and submission to our parents?
2. As we’ve seen in the Beatitudes, King Jesus reveals characteristics of His followers that are 180 degrees from the world’s values. Concerning mercy, what is the world’s natural posture? Can you give examples of that?
3. How does supernatural mercy do what isn’t natural? (hint: it concerns others in their need and misery) Can you tell about a time when you did that?
4. How does God’s mercy not do what is natural? (hint: this concerns debts owed) Can you share about a time you did that?
5. How does mercy include justice? Is justice overlooked, denied, etc.? Can you give an example of a time when you were shown mercy?
6. Agree/disagree: “If you’re working hard at trying to show mercy, then something’s not as it should be spiritually.” Can you explain your answer?
7. How does this beatitude follow the stream of beatitudes that precedes it? Can you “walk through” the meaning of each previous beatitude and show how it connects to the one that follows? (Using the beatitudes as a teaching clue, or a “flow” chart, what could be wrong when I’m not filled with compassion and mercy? When I don’t hunger and thirst for righteousness? When I’m not meek? When I’m not mourning?)
8. Where is your heart right now using the indication of being “filled with mercy”?

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