

## **Blessed are the Merciful.**

**What are 3 words that best describe your week?**

**Share an act of kindness from your week.**

### **Matthew 5:1-7**

- \*How well do you know these 8 beatitudes?
- \*Can you explain them?
- \*What is the meaning of being merciful?
- \*What is a merciful person like?
- \*What are some Biblical examples of mercy?
- \*If I am a merciful person, what are some of the things I would be doing?
- \*What promise is made to the merciful and what does that mean?

### **Luke 6:36**

- \*Is it Possible for us to be merciful like God?  
(If so how and if not what does this verse mean?)
- What is the difference between being judgmental and being discerning?  
(Why is this distinction important?)
- \*How can we know when to show mercy to someone who has wronged us and when to confront?
  - \*How can a bitter person who was terribly mistreated overcome his or her feelings? \*What counsel would you give?
  - \*How can we forgive when we don't feel forgiving?
  - \*What does biblical forgiveness mean?

### **Matthew 9:9-13**

- \*Here Jesus is referring to an old testament verse where is it and what was the prophet referring to?
- \*Should the people he was talking to know what he was referring to?
- \*Who is Levi?
- \*How were tax collectors viewed by other Jews? Why?
- \*Why might a person become a tax collector?
- \*What can we learn from this about Matthew's past?
- \*What can we learn from this about Jesus?
- \*Why did He choose someone he knew would be looked down on by most Jews?
- \*What did the Pharisees think of Jesus' habit of associating with these types of people?

- \*What was Jesus' explanation for this? What does this mean?
- \*What can we learn from this?
- \*Is there anything we need to do either in ministry or just as a person to be more like Jesus in this area?

### **Matt. 18:21-33**

- \*Would a Jew at the time of Peter thought 7 times was a lot or not many times to forgive someone?
  - \*Does Jesus' answer mean you should count seventy sevens (or 490) times?
  - \*What does His answer mean?
  - \*Spend a few minutes and write out the main point of the parable in one sentence in your own words.
  - \*In this parable, who is the king?
  - \*Who are the servants?
  - \*How much is ten thousand talents?
  - \*What does this debt represent?
  - \*Could this debt be paid? So what was to happen to the servant?
  - \*What character does the king shows when he forgives the debt?
  - \*What character does the servant shows when he doesn't forgive?
  - \*How much is one hundred denari?
  - \*What conclusion can we make from this parable's ending?
  - \*How important is forgiveness?
  - \*How might a lack of forgiveness manifest itself in our lives?
  - \*How might we act toward someone if we do not forgive them?
- Does forgiving mean forgetting? Does forgiving mean you will not bring it up again? Does forgiving mean the wound is completely healed? Is there anyone you need to forgive?

### **Luke 10:25-37**

- \*Who are really our neighbors?
- \*Does it make much sense to say that everybody is our neighbor?
- \*Why do you think Jesus chose a Samaritan to be the hero of this story?
- \*What did the expert in the law ask Jesus? Why?
- \*What problem did he have in his heart?
- \*With what question did Jesus counter?
- \*What does this reveal about Jesus' attitude toward the Law and toward the man?

- \*What was the expert's answer and how did Jesus respond?
- \*Why was it correct? (Dt 6:5; Lev 19:18; 1Jn 3:16)
- \*What now did the man need to do? How would this solve his inner problem?
- \*In the parable, what happened to the man going from Jerusalem to Jericho?
- \*Who were the first two people to see the wounded man? What did they do and what did they have in common? How might they have justified themselves?
- \*Why did the Samaritan stop when he saw the man? How did the Samaritan help the injured man? What did he lose in time, money and effort to help this man?
- \*What were the dangers involved? What does this show about the Samaritan?
- \*How is he different from the religious leaders?
- \*What was Jesus' last question? And the expert's honest answer?
- \*How can you and I "go and do likewise"?

### **James 2:12-13**

- \*If a person has no mercy towards others, what does this show?
- \*How is showing mercy and being impartial linked?
- \*Who is a person in your life that you need to show more love to?  
(How will you do this?)
- \*How Has God shown you mercy?