



Blessed are the Merciful

Word

- Matthew 5:7, Matthew 18: 21 - 35, Luke 10:25-37
- How would you define mercy? Is there a difference between grace and mercy? What is the difference?
 - **Working definitions:**
 - Grace: **receiving** a gift that **we don't deserve**
 - Mercy: **not receiving** what **we deserve**. Mercy is purposefully not doing something, or active compassion.
- What do we learn about mercy from the unmerciful servant?
- What do we learn about mercy from the story of the good Samaritan?
- What do we learn about God's heart?

World

- If the beatitude of Jesus is "show mercy" what would the beatitude of the world be?
- Who does the world refuse to show mercy to? What types of actions are "unforgivable"? Think basic.

Us

- Has anyone ever done something to you, that "deserved" a retaliation? Share examples.
- Has there been a time in your life when you "deserved" punishment and received mercy instead? Share examples.
- How does our study of God's merciful heart change the way we view our relationships today?
- Who in your life has "done you dirty"? How are you tempted to respond? Remember, the human condition will naturally lean toward a lack of compassion. How does our study today change your mind?
- Fill in the following statement:

Knowing that God is _____ shows me that I am _____.