

Happy Are the Merciful
How to Be Happy
May 2, 2021

Matthew 5:3-7 (NIV) Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the humble, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

- **God is happily merciful.**

John 15:11 (NIV) I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

Ephesians 2:4-5a (NLT) But God is so rich in mercy, and He loved us so much, ⁵ that even though we were dead because of our sins, He gave us life when He raised Christ from the dead.

- **Justice: Getting what I deserve**
- **Mercy: Not getting what I deserve**
- **Grace: Getting what I don't deserve**

C. S. Lewis: "It cost God nothing, so far as we know, to create nice things: but to convert rebellious wills cost Him crucifixion."

- **God's mercy creates merciful people.**
- **Merciful people express mercy to others.**

It costs to be merciful, but it costs much more not to be merciful.

St. Francis of Assisi: "Lord, make me an instrument of Your mercy. Where there is hatred, let me bring love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. And where there is sadness, joy."

- **Lord, where do I need to receive Your mercy in my life?**
- **Lord, where can I be an instrument of Your mercy?**