

## ARE YOU MERCY-FULL OR MERCY-LESS?

Matthew 5:7

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The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Community Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at [www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons](http://www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons).

### CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- As a group, come up with a definition of “mercy” that everybody agrees on. Who are some people that you know that might fit that definition? Why do you think mercy isn’t a characteristic we tend to see very much in the world today?

### APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week’s passage together. In his message, **Pastor Jason gave us three questions that may reveal whether we are mercy-full or mercy-less.**

### Are You Mercy-Full Or Mercy-Less?

- **Question One: The merciful person sees people the way Jesus does. Do you?**
  - Pastor Jason quoted a spiritual hero of his who once said, “Only when you see people the way Jesus did will you treat people the way Jesus did.” How might you respond to that quote?
  - Can you think of several stories in the Gospels where Jesus saw people in a different way than most people saw them? What did Jesus do after “seeing” people in this way?
  - Read or retell the story of The Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37. What was Jesus trying to help his listeners learn through this parable? What is one thing that you might apply in your own life?
  - Merciful people see the mess in others, and they move in. How do you see people?
- **Question Two: The merciful person always makes a sacrifice. Do you?**
  - Do you think it’s true that “mercy always comes at a cost”? Why or why not?
  - Talk about some recent examples where someone sacrificed something for you - a time when they put your needs before their own. How did that make you feel?
  - Mercy always makes a sacrifice. What can you do this week to show mercy in this way?
- **Question Three: The merciful person recognizes how much mercy they have been shown. Do you?**
  - Read or retell the story of the king and the unforgiving servant in Matthew 18:21-35. Who do you most identify with in this parable? Why do you connect with that specific character?
  - In your own words, talk about your understanding of why you needed God’s mercy for salvation. Be honest, do you sometimes think God had to give you less mercy than others?
  - Is there someone who you are struggling to forgive right now? How might Ephesians 4:29 help you understand what to do in this situation?

***Receive and Respond: What will I do because of what I just heard? (“I will...”)***

### PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that you respond in mercy to those around you; because God has shown you mercy!

