

The Mirror of Mercy

Matthew 5:7 — “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.”

Theme: Those who have received God’s mercy reflect it to others.

Goal: To move from knowing mercy to showing mercy — not as weakness, but as Christlikeness.

Summary

Mercy isn’t sentiment—it’s compassion that acts. God is “rich in mercy” (Eph. 2:4), and His people are called to reflect His heart to a hurting and guilty world. The merciful don’t earn God’s favor; they reveal they’ve already received it through Christ. Mercy flows from the cross: forgiven people forgive, loved people love, and those shown mercy extend mercy.

Key Discussion Questions

1. The Source of Mercy — Where It Starts

- How have you personally experienced God’s mercy this week?
- How could remembering that reshape how you treat others tomorrow?

2. The Reflection of Mercy

- What’s the difference between worldly kindness and kingdom mercy?
- Where are you tempted to show mercy only when it’s convenient?

3. Mercy for the Hurting — Compassion in Motion

- What needs in Dayton could our group meet together?
- What’s one act of mercy we can do before Thanksgiving?

4. Mercy for the Guilty

- Why is forgiveness often harder than compassion?
- Who do you need to release from bitterness this week?

5. Mercy in a Divided World — Truth & Tenderness Together

- How can CityLight be known for strong truth and soft hearts?
- What gap in mercy ministry could we fill as a church?

6. The Promise of Mercy

- How does Jesus' promise "they shall receive mercy" motivate you?
- How does eternity help you show mercy when it feels costly?

Reflect & Pray

- Thank God for His mercy through Christ.
- Confess where you've withheld mercy.
- Ask for opportunities to show mercy to the hurting and guilty this week.
- Pray for CityLight to be known in Dayton as a people of mercy and truth.