

Sermon Series: "Counter Culture"

Text: Matthew 5-7

Message 7: Beatitude #5 – "The Depth of Mercy"

* KEY SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: **MATTHEW 5:7**

* Key Question: What is the right way to treat people??

- Matthew 7:12

* Note the connections between MEEKNESS (vs. 5) & MERCY (vs. 7):

- MEEKNESS is my RESPONSE & REACTION

- MERCY is my PROACTIVE ACTION

* Greek – "Merciful" = "**eleemon**"

- term is used only twice in the New Testament - (Matthew 5:7 & Hebrews 2:17)

- compassion that leads to action

- empathy by substitution

- giving aid/help to the afflicted (those incapable)

- Luke 6:36

* **LUKE 10:25-37** – *Who is my "neighbor"?

- Ephesians 2:4-5

* **MATTHEW 18:21-35** – *How merciful should I be?

- Matthew 6:14-15 / James 2:13 / Hebrews 12:15

Blessed are you – who, in a broken, humble, contrite, sin-mourned spirit of meekness – who, in your ravenous hunger & insatiable thirst for the very righteousness of Jesus – NOW extends MERCY to others – for you will receive the very mercy, grace & forgiveness of God.