

Sermon Notes: July 2, 2017

Our Heart Towards Others

Series: "Sermon on the Mount: True Righteousness"

Matthew 5:7-9 • Pastor Paul Bradford

- **As we show others the mercy we have received from God, we will experience mercy.**
 - *7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.*
- **As we allow the Lord to search us and purify our hearts, we will know the joy of his presence.**
 - *8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.*
- **As we work to bring true peace in relationships, we will have the joy of sharing in God's work.**
 - *9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.*
- **Our Response: You will experience God's joy as you show mercy, seek purity, and strive for peace.**
- **Life Application**
 - *Blessed are the merciful:* Have you truly received God's mercy by trusting in Jesus alone as your Savior from sin, apart from any good works of your own? Are you living in an awareness of God's mercy towards you, and showing that same kind of mercy to others? Are you merciful to your family? To those who are different? To those in need? What is a specific way you can show mercy to another this week? As you show mercy, you will experience mercy.
 - *Blessed are the pure in heart:* Do you have an undivided heart towards God? Spend some time in quietness and pray, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." (Psalms 139:23-24). Allow the Lord to reveal any area where you are double-minded. Consider how he may be leading you to deepen your heart's purity. As you move towards deeper purity, you will experience the blessing of God's presence more deeply.
 - *Blessed are the peacemakers:* When in conflict situation, do you tend to be a peacefaker (more interested in avoiding a conflict than in resolving it) or a peacebreaker (more interested in winning a conflict than in preserving a relationship)? In what relationship do you need to courageously become a peacemaker (willing to face conflict and lovingly resolve it in order to break through to true relationship)? As you lovingly and courageously work for peace, you will know God's blessing.