

Series: MAINTAINING HAPPINESS IN YOUR LIFE
Part 5 - "Your Ministry Of Mercy"

"God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy." Matthew 5:7

HOW DO I SHOW MERCY?

1. Be patient with people's quirks

"Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love." Ephesians 4:2 (LB)

2. Help anyone hurting around me

"Whenever you possibly can, do good to those who need it." Proverbs 3:27 (TEV)

"[When you do] acts of mercy, show mercy with cheerfulness." Romans 12:8

". . .if you work with the disadvantaged, don't let yourself get irritated with them or depressed by them. Keep a smile on your face. Rom 12:8 (Mes)

3. Give people a second chance

"Don't get bitter or angry or use harsh words that hurt each other. Don't yell at one another or curse or ever be rude. Instead, be kind and merciful, and forgive others, just as God forgave you because of Christ." Eph. 4:31-32 (CEV)

4. Do good to those who hurt me

"Love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because God is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." Luke 6:35-36 (NIV)

5. Build bridges of love to the unpopular

"Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to be his dinner guests, along with his fellow tax collectors and many other notorious sinners. The Pharisees were indignant. 'Why does your teacher eat with such scum?' they asked his disciples. When he heard this, Jesus replied, 'Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. Go learn the meaning of the Scripture, "I want you to be merciful; I don't want your sacrifices!" For I have come to call sinners, not those who think they are already good enough.'" Matthew 9:10-13 (NLT)

6. Value relationships over rules

"Another time Jesus was walking through some grain fields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry, so they began to pick some grain and eat it. Some Pharisees saw this and protested, 'Your disciples are breaking God's law by harvesting grain on the Sabbath!' But Jesus said, 'Haven't you ever read what King David did when he and his soldiers were hungry? He went into the house of God, and they ate the holy bread reserved for the priests? . . . You would not have judged these innocent men if you knew the real meaning of the Scripture, "I want you to be merciful. I don't want your sacrifices!" For I am the Lord of the Sabbath!'" Matt. 12:1-8 (NLT)