MATT 5:7 - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL - (SERMON MP3)

Mercy has both a spiritual component and a practical component. It takes us from the Mercy seat to the Mercy street. Read the

followin	g passages and jot down some thoughts about the spiritual and the practical side of mercy.
*	Thoughts on Spiritual Mercy (Ex. 25:17-21; Lev. 16:13-15)
*	Thoughts on Practical Mercy (Deut. 15:8-9; Luke 10:30-35; Prov. 14:21)
	t the following case studies and describe how each of the characters demonstrated mercy. What can we learn about merce ir lives? Can you think of any other biblical examples of mercy?
**	Abraham toward Lot (Gen. 13:5-11; 14:8-16)
**	Joseph toward his brothers (Gen. 37:20-28; 42:25; 44:1)
*	Moses toward Miriam (Num. 12:1, 10, 8)
	mercy so important? Study the following passages and write out one sentence that summarizes the overarching principle, and s why mercy is imperative (2Sam 22:26; James 2:13; Matt. 6:12,14; Psalm 18:25; Prov. 11:17).
**	What is the relationship between mercy and forgiveness? Take some time to study (Matt 18:21-35).
**	What is the plight of the merciless?
Should	a merciful person always show mercy?
**	Can a Christian be consistently merciful and yet be a parent who disciplines a child for disobedience instead of turning the other cheek to the child's insolence?
**	Can a Christian be consistently merciful and yet be an employer who pays good wages for excellent work but dismisses irresponsible employees who do shoddy work?
**	Can a believer be consistently merciful and yet be a legislator who enacts laws that give stiff penalties for drunk driving and chil abuse?

Can a Christian be consistently merciful and yet be part of a congregation who follows the biblical mandate for church discipline

and excommunicates a member for unforsaken, public sin?1

¹ This series of questions was taken from "Blessed are the Merciful" by John Piper www.desiringgod.org Feb. 23, 1986 (Accessed 11/7/13).

*	** What was the supreme act of God's mercy and how did it fulfill justice? What references can you find to support your view?				
*	Take a look at these two case studies and describe the results of mercy given at the expense of justice (Saul's mercy on Agag 1Sam. 15:9; David's mercy on Absalom 2Sam. 13-14).				
For eac	each of the following merciful actions, write down a personalized application of how you could demonstrate mercy. ** Mercy to forgive –				
**	: Mercy to have compassion –				
**	Mercy to give –				
**	Mercy to speak –	Name	Prayer Need		
**	Mercy to pray –				
Take some time to study the well known story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37). Explain and respond to the following three truth statements from that					
story.	Mercy relieves the consequences of sin in the lives of others (both sinners				
	and those sinned against).				
**	Mercy does not hide behind unbiblical scruples or tradition driven religiosity in order to protect itself from costly service.				
*	Mercy is the fulfillment of the second great commandment "love your neighbor as yourself."				

Does God set aside the demands of His justice when He shows us mercy? Explain.