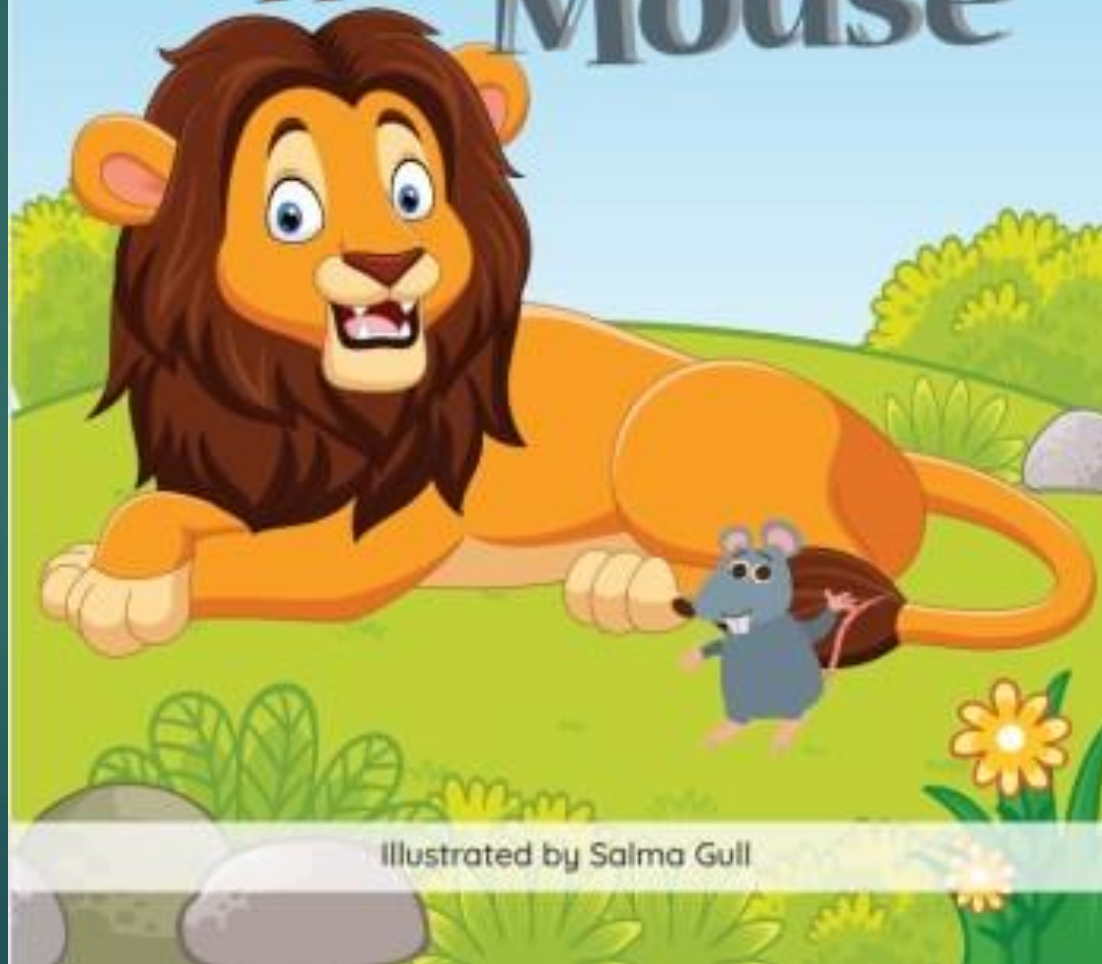


Best Sermon Ever: The Merciful

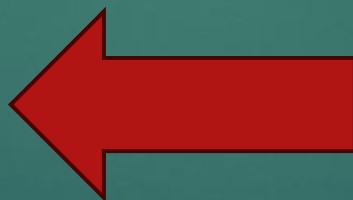
11/09/2025 – MATTHEW 5:7

EMMANUEL CHINESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Lion and The Mouse



Illustrated by Salma Gull



The Beatitudes

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of
heaven.

4 Blessed are those who mourn
for they will be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek for they
will inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are those who hunger
and thirst for righteousness, for
they will be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful, for
they will be shown mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children
of God.

10 Blessed are those who are
persecuted because of
righteousness, for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven.



A white laurel wreath, composed of two branches of leaves joined at the ends, encircles the text. The leaves are stylized and pointy.

Blessed

are the merciful,
for they will be
shown mercy.

-Matthew 5:7



Three Questions



- ▶ What does showing mercy look like?
- ▶ What happens if you don't show mercy?
- ▶ Why is mercy important to God?

What Does Showing Mercy Look Like?

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

26 “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

27 He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’ and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

28 “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

29 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

30 In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. 31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. 32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

36 “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

37 The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

Showing Mercy

- ▶ It sees a person in trouble
- ▶ There is a heart response
- ▶ Action to provide relief
- ▶ Goes above barriers





Elmer Richardson *Special To The Register*

Richardson Held In Nazi Prison

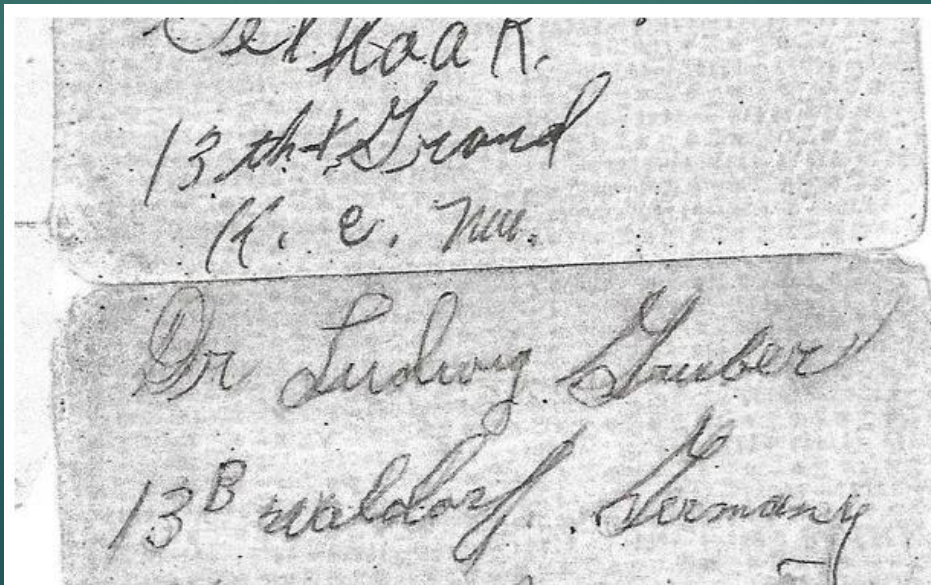
Staff Sergt. Elmer (Curly) Richardson, previously reported missing in action Dec. 20 in Luxembourg, is a prisoner of the Germans, the war department has notified his wife, Patsy, 1495 Mondamin ave.

Sergeant Richardson received basic infantry training at Camp Fannin, Tex., and was sent overseas last July. He served in England, France, Belgium and Germany. Before entering the army he was employed by R. L. McIntire Trucking Lines here.



RICHARDSON.

An article about Richardson's situation published in a Des Moines newspaper. *Special To The Register*



Dr. Ludwig Gruber provided his address to Richardson. *Special To The Register*



Dr. Ludwig Gruber *Special To The Register*



What Happens If You Don't Show Mercy?

The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”
22 Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.
23 “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. 25 Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.
26 “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ 27 The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant



28 “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

29 “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

30 “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. 31 When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

32 “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ 34 In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

35 “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Mercy in The Form of Forgiveness of Debt



Mercy in The Form of Forgiveness of Debt





But ...

If we ask, “How shall we know when to do justice and how to show mercy?” I would answer that it’s by getting as close to Jesus as you possibly can. I know of no hard and fast rules in Scripture to dictate for every situation, and I don’t think this is an accident. The aim of Scripture is to produce a certain kind of person, not provide an exhaustive list of rules for every situation.

- John Piper





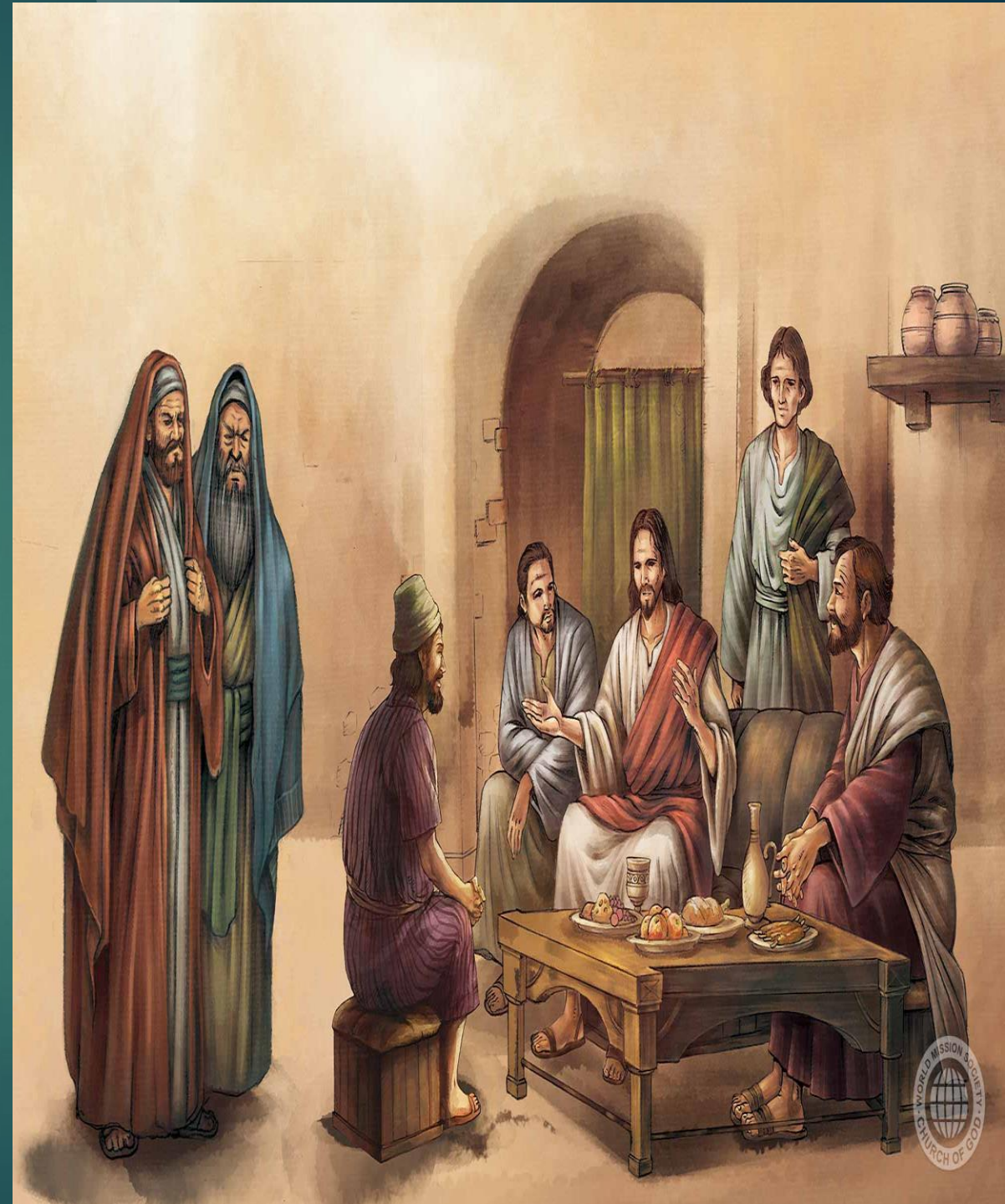
Why is Mercy Important to God?

Matthew 9:9-13

9 As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

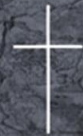
10 While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. 11 When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

12 On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 13 But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."





HOSEA 6:6
FOR I DESIRE MERCY,
NOT SACRIFICE,
AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF GOD RATHER THAN
BURNT OFFERINGS.



HE HAS SHOWED
YOU, O MAN,
WHAT IS GOOD.
AND WHAT DOES
THE LORD REQUIRE
OF YOU? TO ACT
JUSTLY AND TO
LOVE MERCY
AND TO WALK HUMBLY
WITH YOUR GOD.

Micah 6:8

CONCLUSION

The background of the image is a landscape at sunrise or sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow across the sky and the land. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds that are illuminated from below. The land consists of rolling hills and mountains, with the foreground showing dry, brownish grass. In the top right corner, there is a solid red rectangle.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

Benediction



24 “““The Lord bless you and keep you;
25 the Lord make his face shine on you and be
gracious to you;
26 the Lord turn his face toward you and give
you peace.””