

YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE
“The Ultimate Life Style” Part 5
Jeff Wall 1-27-08

Matthew 5:7 (Ph) *"Happy are the merciful, for they will have mercy shown to them!"*

1. The Meaning of Mercy

"Mercy" is love in action. It's more than just an attitude. More than just feeling sorry for people. It's doing something.

The Bible says God is a merciful God.

"God is kind and merciful, slow to get angry, and full of love." Ps. 145:8

2. The Marks of Mercy. If I am Merciful ...

*** I'll be patient with those who are peculiar.**

*"... Encourage the timid, help the weak, and be patient with everyone."
I Thess. 5:14 Rom 15:7*

*** I'll forgive those who have fallen**

"Be gentle and ready to forgive; never hold grudges. Remember the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others." Col. 3:13

*** I'll help those who are hurting.**

"Whenever you possibly can, do good to those who need it." Prov. 3:27

"If someone who is supposed to be a Christian has enough money to live well, and sees a brother in need but won't help him -- how can God's love be in him? ... Let's stop just saying we love people ... let's show it by our actions!" I John 3:17-18

"Be merciful to those who doubt." Judge 1:24

*** I'll do good to my enemies.**

"If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' do that! . . . But love your enemies, do good to them ... then your reward will be great ... Be merciful, just as your Father is!" Luke 6:33, 35-36

3. The Motive for Mercy

* Because God has shown me mercy!

"Shouldn't you be merciful to other people just as I have been merciful to you?"

Matt. 18:3

* Because I'm going to need more mercy in the future

"The man who makes no allowances for others will find none made for him."

James 2:13

* Because it makes me happy!!

"Your own soul is nourished when you are kind; it is destroyed when you are cruel." Pr. 11:17