

## **Mercy Me**

Get Used To Different | Week 5 | Matthew 5:7

INTRODUCTION	NOTES
Both character and conduct are important when it comes to following Jesus. Conduct without character is meaningless. And character without conduct is useless. You have to have both. As you study the Sermon on the Mount, you realize that what Jesus is saying is, "You are not a Christian because you act like one; you act like a Christian because you are one." With all of this in mind, today's message summed up in a sentence is this - when you truly experience the mercy of God, you will freely extend mercy to others. So let's look at what our responsibility is when it comes to showing others the same mercy God has shown us.	
KEY POINTS	,
1. We Should Seek Mercy As we follow Jesus, we need to seek to be merciful. We need to take the focus off of ourselves sometimes and put it on others. We need to learn how to be sympathetic and empathetic to the hurting, the hopeless, and the helpless. Because we are human beings, mercy is not something that is going to come naturally to us. Instead, we need to ask for the Holy Spirit to grant us mercy so that we can become more like Jesus. So in order for us to be given this gift of mercy, we must seek it out and ask for it.	
2. We Should Show Mercy When we listen to people pour out their hurts and their hearts to us, we are on a mission of mercy. When we give people food and clothing, we are on a mission of mercy. We shouldn't stop at just sharing the gospel. We should also live out the gospel. You cannot live the gospel without sharing the gospel, but you cannot share the gospel without living the gospel. We need to be doing both.  A person who is merciful in a nutshell is a person who doesn't just care about someone's hurt and heartache; they care enough to do something about it. This is the type of person we should all strive to be.	

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B. We Will Share Mercy Jesus promises that when you seek mercy and you show mercy, you will share in mercy. "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy" (Matthew 5:7).	NOTES
Now, it's important to consider in light of this verse that you can't give what you do not have. You can't share the joy of an experience f you've not experienced that joy yourself. If you're not a merciful person, it's because you've never really experienced the mercy of God. We need to take note of the mercy God shows us and be mindful of it so we can share that mercy with others.	

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### **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

1.	Would you consider yourself a merciful person? Why or why not?
2.	What is the hardest part about showing mercy to someone?
3.	Who is someone in your life you need to show mercy to?

## A Heart For God

 $\textit{Get Used To Different} \mid \textit{Week 6} \mid \textit{Matthew 5:8}$ 

INTRODUCTION	NOTES
The word "pure" from today's key verse is translated from the Greek word "katharos." It means "to purify by cleansing from dirt, filth and contamination." The reality is that we were all born with dirty hearts. That is why a king named David who was a man after God's own heart asked God to create in him a pure heart. But what does that mean? Well, the idea of a pure heart is a heart that is pure in its motives, in its thoughts, and in its desires. It's the kind of heart Jesus is encouraging His followers to have according to the Sermon on the Mount. With this in mind, today's message is going to be all about what it looks like to have the kind of pure heart Jesus was talking about.	
KEY POINTS	
1. We Are To Pursue Internal Purity Why is God so focused on our heart and why should we be so focused on our heart? Well, your heart is where your feelings, your mind, and your will all live. The wisest man who ever lived, King Solomon said, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it" (Proverbs 4:23).	
What he said is true because we don't live according to what we think in our minds; we live according to what we really believe in our hearts. This is why we must pursue internal purity within our hearts.	
2. We Are To Practice Outward Purity The evidence of a pure heart is your hands. If your heart is pure on the inside, your life will be pure on the outside. In fact, Jesus said in Luke 6:45, "A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of."	

#### A Heart For God

Get Used To Different | Week 6 | Matthew 5:8

## 3. We Are Promised Eternal Purity

There is a price for purity. You pay a price not to sleep with someone before you get married. You pay a price not to cheat on your income taxes. You pay a price to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. But there is a payoff to purity that is far greater than the price. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God" (Matthew 5:8).

Can you think of a greater blessing? A higher blessing? A sweeter blessing than to see God face to face? If nothing is higher than God, it must mean that seeing God is the highest joy you could ever experience. And we are promised that joy if we are pure in heart.

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## A Heart For God

 $\textit{Get Used To Different} \mid \textit{Week 6} \mid \textit{Matthew 5:8}$ 

### **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

1.	Is there any	part of your	heart that n	eeds to b	e purified?
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2.	What evid	lence of	outward	purit	y can	you se	e in	your	own	life t	hat i	refl	ects
	your inwa	rd purit	ty?										

	your mind party.
3.	What excites you about getting to see God face to face one day?

## **Peace Process**

Get Used To Different | Week 7 | Matthew 5:9

INTRODUCTION	NOTES
Isn't it interesting that our heroes are not peace-makers, but they are the fighters, the soldiers, and the warriors? The people who make the history books and the news are the people who fight the battles, win the wars, and conquer the enemy. Then, Jesus comes along and said, "Blessed are the peace makers. For they shall be called the children of God." What we are going to learn today from Jesus is simply this - when we make peace with God, we can then make peace for God. This statement leads us to answer four questions about peace and peace making. Let's dive into answering those questions together.	
KEY POINTS	
1. What Do We Mean By Peace?  Peace is that inner security and tranquility that comes from knowing you are in a right relationship with the God of peace. It is only when you have a right relationship with God that you have a right relationship with yourself, and then you are truly capable of having a right relationship with other people. In other words, when you make peace with God, you can make peace for God.  2. Where Do We Find Peace?  The only true lasting peace you will find is in the Lord Jesus	
Christ – the Prince of Peace. Jesus specifically said, "My peace is not like the world's peace. It is not the peace the world can give and it is not the peace the world can take away. It is a peace that passes all understanding." I have experienced this in my own life. So I can say with full confidence that nothing compares to the peace that you have when you have Jesus.	
3. How Do We Make Peace?  The greatest way you can be a peace maker. It is when we help other people find the peace of God in Jesus Christ. Another name for peace making is something Paul referred to. It is called "the ministry of reconciliation." When you make peace with God you are not to keep that peace to yourself. You are to make peace with God so that others can make peace for God. Therefore, anytime that we can help bring peace within fractured friendships, and fractured families we should do that.	

#### **Peace Process**

Get Used To Different | Week 7 | Matthew 5:9

4.	Why	Should	We	<b>Eniov</b>	Peace?
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There is a reward waiting for the peacemaker. Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9). To be called a child of God means you act like God. Nothing thrills a dad more than to hear that his sons and daughters are just like him. When we are making peace for God, because we have made peace with God, the world will look at us and have to say, "You know they are just like their Father," because God is the ultimate peacemaker.

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#### **Peace Process**

Get Used To Different | Week 7 | Matthew 5:9

#### **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

- 1. What are some other places you've tried to find peace outside of your relationship with Jesus?
- 2. In what area of your life do you need peace right now? What are some practical steps you can take to find the peace you're looking for?

3.	Who is someone in your life you can share the peace of Jesus with this week?

## **No Fine Print**

 $\textit{Get Used To Different} \mid \textit{Week 8} \mid \textit{Matthew 5:} 10$ 

INTRODUCTION	NOTES
Maybe the reason why we don't really face much of any persecution is not because we are living in a different age than the early Christians. It may be because we are living a different kind of Christianity than the early Christians. The reality is that you are going to be persecuted if you truly live up to the standard that Jesus expects. With this in mind, let's take a look at what Jesus is telling us in His powerful statement about persecution from the Sermon on the Mount.	
KEY POINTS	
1. We Must Recognize The Reality Of Persecution  The reality of persecution is that it is unavoidable for those who follow Jesus. The type of persecution you face might be different than another follower of Jesus, but you will face persecution nonetheless if you are living your life fully surrendered to the Lord. There is no escaping it. There is no dodging it. There is no avoiding it. You will face persecution if you haven't already, and it's only going to get worse as time goes on.  2. We Must Realize The Reason For Persecution  If you speak up for what is right and stand up for what is right and what God says is right, you shall be persecuted. It is not a matter of "if" you will get persecuted. It is a question of when, where, and how much.	
Now the word "righteousness" in today's key verse comes from a root word which means literally "to divide." If you are righteous compared to the rest of this world, you are going to divide yourself from the world. You are going to be different from the world and therefore you are going to be persecuted by the world.	

## **No Fine Print**

 $\textit{Get Used To Different} \mid \textit{Week 8} \mid \textit{Matthew 5:10}$ 

<b>3. We Must Remember The Reward For Persecution</b> By the power of the Holy Spirit and the grace of God, when you	NOTES
choose to face persecution and what is right no matter the cost, one day you will be sitting on a throne with a crown on your head reigning with Jesus. Jesus is not just talking about entering the	
kingdom then; He is talking about enjoying the kingdom now. Yes, they may throw stones at you from the street, but just remember even while they do, you are sitting on a throne in heaven.	

### **No Fine Print**

Get Used To Different | Week 8 | Matthew 5:10

#### **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

1.	Have you ever faced any form of persecution before for your faith? If so, what happened? How did you respond?
2.	What are some ways you've divided yourself from the world?

How does knowing the reward that is coming give you peace and comfort in the midst of persecution?	