

Blessed are..... (PART 5 OF 8) December 4, 2017

MATTHEW 5:7 NKJV – (7) Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Mercy is the loving disposition towards those who suffer distress. Love, compassion, and forgiveness towards one's neighbor will bring peace in your relationships. We say in the Lord's Prayer: *Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us*. As we are merciful to others, so our Heavenly Father will be merciful with us! Jesus reminds us that whatever "you did to the least of my brethren, you did it to me (Matthew 25:31-46)." St. Paul calls for the *obedience of faith* in the beginning and end of his Letter to the Romans (1:5, 16:25-27). The following are ways to be merciful to your neighbor as well as to be obedient in faith to Christ our Savior.

The Corporal Works of Mercy of feeding the Hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, comfort the imprisoned, visit the sick and bury the dead

The Spiritual Works of Mercy of admonishing sinners, instruct the uninformed, counsel the doubtful, comfort the sorrowful, be patient with those in error, forgive offenses and praying for the living and the dead (spirited).

SCRIPTURE READING

JOEL 2:13

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK T.G.I.F. Thank God I'm Forgiven.