

# Blessed are...the Merciful, the Pure in Heart, the Peacemakers, and those Who are Persecuted

Discover what Jesus taught us about the heart and mind of an ideal disciple. Join us as we examine the remaining beatitudes of Jesus in Matthew 5:7-12 with our guest, Danny Daley. Together, we'll explore what Jesus taught us when he described the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, and the persecuted as blessed. Then we'll discuss how understanding and cultivating the dispositions Jesus described in the Beatitudes in our lives of discipleship gives the world a glimpse of God's kingdom here on earth.

**AWARENESS** Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- How do you define mercy?
- What characteristics or qualities describe the kingdom of heaven? What sources have informed that description for you?



**LISTEN TO THE EPISODE:** [\*Blessed are...the Merciful, the Pure in Heart, the Peacemakers, and those Who are Persecuted\*](#)

**READ** [Matthew 5:7-12](#)

**REFLECTION** After listening, consider the following questions:

- Dr. Danny Daley said, "Mercy is at the center of God's heart," and "at the very center of God's heart is that we would show mercy to others" who need forgiveness, are downtrodden, or in difficult circumstances. If mercy matters so much to God, why do we find it challenging to show mercy to others in our daily lives?
- What did Danny's explanation of what Jesus means when he talks about being pure in heart teach you about the attitude and behavior of a disciple?
- While discussing the "Blessed are the peacemakers" beatitude, host Darrell Delaney stated, "Peace *keeping* ignores that there is an issue;" and in contrast he said, "peacemaking says there *is* an issue, yet I am going to make this effort." Why is this differentiation between *peacekeeping* and *peacemaking* valuable to understand?
- As Danny, Darrell, and host Scott Hoezee concluded their discussion about the beatitudes about persecution, Danny explained, "You can expect persecution, but don't worry. Why? Because when that persecution comes ...you are going to be able to sustain it and live well within it because you have cultivated these things. Don't worry about the persecution. You are ready." How does this impact your understanding of what Jesus means in the beatitudes in [Matthew 5:10-12](#)?

- In segment 3, Danny reminded us that we know these beatitudes are good to cultivate in our discipleship because we witness Jesus modeling them in the gospel stories. In which stories do you see Jesus demonstrating the dispositions of an ideal disciple discussed in this episode: being merciful, being pure in heart, being a peacemaker, and being persecuted?

## RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Hosea 6:6](#), [Matthew 18:21-35](#), [Psalm 24:3-4](#), [Luke 18:9-14](#), [Matthew 6:1-18](#), [Matthew 23](#), [Matthew 5:43-48](#), [John 1:9-13](#), [Romans 8:14-17](#), [John 15:18-25](#), [Matthew 10](#), [Psalm 146:7-9](#), [Luke 4:14-30](#), [Mark 1:15](#)

## CONCLUSION

As Danny, Darrell, and Scott concluded their discussion on the Beatitudes Jesus taught in [Matthew 5:1-12](#), they focused their conversation on the kingdom of heaven, calling the Beatitudes “a foretaste of the kingdom of heaven.” Why do you think we have difficulty talking about the kingdom of heaven as easily as Jesus did? What does it mean to you that you can show the world what heaven looks like by cultivating the values of heaven, the Beatitudes, in your life of discipleship?

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