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**Paradoxes of True Happiness**  
**Part 2 – Our activity among people**

Matthew 5:7-12

**Introduction:**

● Circle T for true or F for false:

1. All believers in Christ are happy. T F
2. Some believers in Christ do not realize that they are happy. T F

● Last week we learned who is happy:

1. Those who are p\_\_\_\_\_ in spirit (depend upon the Lord's mercy).
2. Those who have the lifestyle of m\_\_\_\_\_ (over their sin).
3. Those who are gentle (h\_\_\_\_\_ before the Lord).
4. Those who have the lifestyle of hungering and thirsting after a r\_\_\_\_\_ standing with God.

● Last we learned why these are happy – because of what God does for us or will do for us:

1. He has given us His k\_\_\_\_\_.
2. He will c\_\_\_\_\_ us with His forgiveness.
3. He will give us the new e\_\_\_\_\_ as an inheritance
4. He f\_\_\_\_\_ us with His righteousness.

● This week's message:

1. Will show that certain activity is a r\_\_\_\_\_ of true happiness.
2. Will show that the only reason we do good things is because God did g\_\_\_\_\_ to us first.

**Characterized by Imparting M\_\_\_\_\_ (7)**

*Happy are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.*

● The point:

1. It DOES NOT say that receiving mercy is a r\_\_\_\_\_ for imparting mercy.
  - a. Rom 9:15,16 states that God showing mercy is not d\_\_\_\_\_ but is a gift.
  - b. Definition of showing mercy - having p\_\_\_\_\_ on one's condition (see 1 Tim 1:13 where the mercy is salvation).
2. It DOES say that the merciful are happy b\_\_\_\_\_ they will receive mercy.
  - a. God showed mercy when He saved us from the p\_\_\_\_\_ of sin (Titus 1:3; 1 Pet 1:3).
  - b. God will show mercy to us by saving us from the p\_\_\_\_\_ of sin (provides the power to overcome sin).

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- c. God will finish showing mercy to us by saving us from the p\_\_\_\_\_ of sin (Phil 1:6).
3. Being merciful is a l\_\_\_\_\_ that results from God supplying us the power to overcome sin.
- a. If we fail to show mercy in a situation, does that automatically mean that we do not have the lifestyle of being merciful? \_\_\_\_
- b. Sin does not c\_\_\_\_\_ the believer. When we sin we are acting OUT OF character not in character.
- Examples of imparting mercy to others (having pity on a person's condition so as to be moved to action)
1. P\_\_\_\_\_ for a person's salvation
2. H\_\_\_\_\_ someone in need
3. F\_\_\_\_\_ someone who has sinned against you.
- Examples of God imparting mercy to us
1. When we struggle with temptation, He provides the way to e\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor 10:13).
2. When we give in to sin, God showers us with His f\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Jn 1:9).
3. When we persist in sin, God d\_\_\_\_\_ us to move us to repentance (1 Cor 11:32).

### Characterized by Pure M\_\_\_\_\_ (8)

*Happy are the pure in heart, for they will see God.*

- Purity of heart cannot be immediately seen because it has to do with our m\_\_\_\_\_
1. The world's motives are basically s\_\_\_\_\_.
2. The true believer's motives are basically uns\_\_\_\_\_.
- a. This does not mean that if we gain some kind of benefit for doing something "unselfish" that we have impure motives.
- b. This does mean that our p\_\_\_\_\_ motivation is not selfish and that we are always "Above board" with any secondary motivations.
- Examples of a pure heart in action
1. Spending private time p\_\_\_\_\_ for others.
2. Giving of finances for the advancement of God's k\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Serving others to benefit them.
- Purity of heart
1. Is not acquired by our own e\_\_\_\_\_.
2. It is the result of God saving us from our impurities (sins)
- a. Selfishness k\_\_\_\_\_ us spiritually (Rom 3:23)

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b. Salvation is where God removes the characteristic of selfishness from us (Matt 16:24).

●When will we see God?

1. Jn 1:18; Ex 33:20 – no human can see God and I \_\_\_\_\_
2. 1 Jn 3:2; Heb 12:14 – because God has purified our hearts, we will see Him when Jesus r\_\_\_\_\_.

**Characterized by Peace**M\_\_\_\_\_ (9)

*Happy are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.*

●Why are we peacemakers?

1. We experience peace with God through the Prince of Peace, J\_\_\_\_\_ who died for us on a cross (Col 1:20)
2. Having peace with God moves us to p\_\_\_\_\_ peace with others.

●What is peacemaking?

1. Rom 12:18 – doing a\_\_\_\_\_ we can to be at peace with all people.
2. It is not the result but the p\_\_\_\_\_ that is important (sometimes peace is unattainable because of the other person).

●What will peacemakers be called?

1. We are already called s\_\_\_\_\_ of God through faith in Christ (Gal 3:26)
  - a. The term child of God emphasizes being in God's f\_\_\_\_\_ (Jn 1:12)
  - b. The term son of God emphasizes being an h\_\_\_\_\_ of God (Gal 4:7)
2. Our sonship has a f\_\_\_\_\_ aspect (Eph 1:5)
  - a. This is when we actually receive our i\_\_\_\_\_ from God.
  - b. That inheritance is r\_\_\_\_\_ in heaven and so is guaranteed (1 Pet 1:4) – we will be called the sons of God.

**Conclusion:**

- Should we expect “positive things” from imparting mercy, having pure motives, and pursuing peace? Jesus says that we can expect p\_\_\_\_\_ for practicing righteousness (v. 10)
- Verses 11,12 are specifically addressed to the a\_\_\_\_\_ whom He puts on the same level as the O.T. prophets. So we must be careful how we apply this – we will get r\_\_\_\_\_ for our faithfulness in the face of persecution.

*True happiness is not an emotion but a state of being. Happy are you!*