



## THE BIG IDEA

Truthfulness creates a context wherein authentic mercy can be shown. This purifies the heart, allowing us to see God more clearly.

## WHY DO WE NEED TO KNOW IT?

The world teaches that mercy is for the weak. The gospel teaches otherwise.

## WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

Be truthful about our own mistakes and the mistakes of others, and create a context wherein authentic mercy can be shown.

## START HERE

We want our entire church to be a part of the conversation. If you missed any of the messages from Sunday, you can catch up [here](#).

## CONVERSATION GUIDE

This week's message begins our series on the Beatitudes. Ryan gave an overview of why the Beatitudes are important to the Christian life.

Begin by reading the Beatitudes together from Matthew 5:1-11

### Consider this

The clip that Ryan used in his message depicted the Karate instructor from Cobra Kai Dojo making it clear that enemies deserve no mercy.

*"We do not train to be merciful here. Mercy is for the weak. If the enemy confronts you, he is the enemy. The enemy deserves no mercy."*

How does this way of thinking relate to your experience growing up? Have you ever been exposed to, or even ascribed to a similar thought process?

How do you think the people in Jesus' audience felt towards their enemies? (The Romans especially?)

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## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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- Book- *Seeking God's Face: Praying with the Bible through the year*- [BUY](#)
- More resources posted on the Forefront blog- [READ](#)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### February 6th - 7th

- Forefront Marriage Retreat [Sign Up](#)

### January 28th

- Leadership Community at Forefront Central Office, 7pm

### February 4th

- Baptism Service [Sign Up](#)

What does Jesus' teaching on mercy do to enhance your view of God?

How is Jesus' teaching on mercy different or similar to the way you were conditioned to think about your enemies growing up?

## BENEDICTION

Holy God of Love,

There is light in our lives because of the abundance of your steadfast love.

A love so vast, so deep, so real, that you became one of us. May we live within the power of this love. And may we share its light with a world where too many dwell in darkness.

Amen