

Teaching Series: Happy Time: 4.10.16

Title: Blessed Are The Merciful Teacher: Mike Sorcinelli

Blessed means _____.

Matthew 5:7, "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

Mercy is when you see a need and _____, when you find a hurt and _____ (see Matthew 9:9-13, 27-30).

EXCUSES PEOPLE MAKE FOR NOT PRACTICING MERCY

Excuse #1: Sunday is my day of _____.

Matthew 12:1-8, At that time Jesus went through the grain-fields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick some heads of grain and eat them.² When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, "Look! Your disciples are doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath."... [Jesus replied]⁷ If you had known what these words mean, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the innocent.⁸ For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath." NIV

Excuse #2: I don't feel _____ to that ministry.

Matthew 15:21-28, Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly."²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us."²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." [but look what I'm about to do]²⁸...Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

The need right in front of you _____.

(notes continued)

Excuse #3: I just want to pray and _____.

Matthew 23:23-24, "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former."²⁴ You blind guides!

Your mountain-top experiences with God are meant to empower you for practicing _____ in the valley (see Matthew 17:14-15).

Excuse #4: I'll serve _____.

(see Matthew 20:29-34)

SEVEN REASONS TO SERVE IN KIDS CHURCH

1. Children are _____ to God (Matthew 19:14).
2. _____ are most receptive to the gospel.
3. God always rewards what's done _____ (Matthew 6).
4. Serving kids will make you a more _____ person.
5. The only qualification is _____.
6. We're called to pass on the faith to the _____ (Psalm 78:4).
7. When you serve kids, you are serving _____ (Matthew 25:40).

