

“Blessed are  
the merciful,  
for they will  
receive mercy”  
(Mt 5:7)

If there is one word in Scripture that, like others and **more than others**, expresses what Jesus revealed to us about God, this word is mercy.

Jesus, who is the son of God and of Mary, shows us that God loves us both like a father and like a mother, as clearly expressed in two concepts from the Hebrew Bible. One is that God has a **profound attitude of goodness** and kindness toward us, which reveals his constant faithfulness, and the other is that he has a **“maternal love” towards everyone.**



## What is mercy?

And why does Jesus make it a condition for personal salvation?

Jesus returns to the theme of the beatitudes in the prayer of the **“Our Father,”** in which he tells us to say: “Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.”

There is a law written in heaven which says that our faults will be forgiven **in the measure that we forgive** other people.



The whole of Jesus’ teaching tends to give us, through his love, the tool for achieving this lofty fellowship with other people and with God.

Mercy is the ultimate expression of love, of charity, the one that completes it, and **therefore, makes it perfect.**



da un commento di Chiara Lubich  
dalla Parola di vita di nov'00

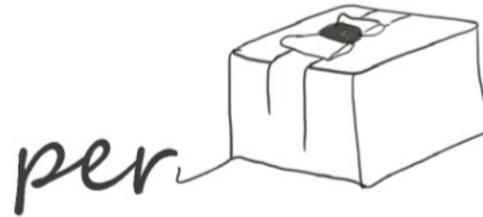
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"Blessed are  
the merciful  
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(Mt 5:7)

How, then, can we live this  
Word well?

Let's try, in all our  
relationships,  
to live this love  
towards others  
in the form of mercy!  
Mercy is a love  
**that welcomes** every  
neighbor, especially the  
poor and needy.  
**Merciful love knows no  
bounds. It is abundant,  
universal and practical.**  
This kind of love helps  
**bring about reciprocity,**  
which is the ultimate aim



of mercy, without which there  
would only be justice,  
which brings about **equality,**  
**but not a true sense of  
family.**



Nowadays, people often talk of denying  
forgiveness to people who have  
committed serious crimes.  
They want revenge  
more than justice.  
But once every effort has  
been made to compensate for the  
damage done, we must let  
**forgiveness play its part.**  
Only forgiveness can heal the  
personal and social trauma produced  
by evil.



"Forgive and you will be  
forgiven."

So, if we have been offended  
or treated unjustly in any  
way, let's forgive and  
we will be forgiven.

**We can be the first ones to  
show kindness and  
compassion!**

Even if it seems difficult, and  
we need to be brave, let's  
ask ourselves in front of  
every neighbor: **what would  
his or her mother do?**

This thought will help us  
understand and live  
according to God's heart.