

## Emmanuel Prayer List - May

### Trinidad/St. Vincents - Ruth Bastedo & Ken How

- Thanks for a generous donation of medical supplies.

#### Continuing needs...

- Protection for women and children from roving gangs.
- For God to be acknowledged by island people, that they would be saved.
- Pray for Ruth as she fills each barrel to be shipped.
- For people to turn their hearts toward Jesus Christ.
- Wisdom for the Prime Ministers of Trinidad & St. Vincents
- Pray for Ruth's husband to progress after his stroke.

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### Study Continued

8. Pastor Peter said that the greatest test of our Christianity isn't our actions, but our reactions. How do we react to a hurting and needy world, to people whose lives are torn apart, to someone who hurt us, to someone who has done one us wrong, to people who don't know Christ?  
The issue isn't about learning to be more merciful, the issue is the condition of our soul. Mercy flows from a relationship with the one who has shown mercy to us. If we are struggling to be merciful to others, what must we do first?

9. Pastor Peter gave three steps to being merciful. What are they?

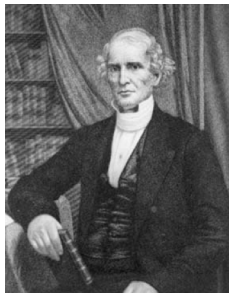
How can we better put each one of them into practice?

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### Albert Barnes

American theologian, 1798-1870

"In nothing does God delight more than in the exercise of mercy. Nowhere do we imitate God more than in showing mercy to others."



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

## The Beatitudes

1. Blessed are the poor in Spirit
2. Blessed are those who mourn
3. Blessed are the meek
4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness
- 5. Blessed are the merciful**
6. Blessed are the pure in heart
7. Blessed are the peacemakers
8. Blessed are the persecuted

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## Blessed are the Merciful

The Beatitudes:

### BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL

Mercy =

Woman caught in adultery (John 8:1-11)

What might Jesus have been writing?

Hosea 6:6 I desire mercy, not \_\_\_\_\_.

v.7 If any one of you is \_\_\_\_\_, let him be the first to throw a stone at her

What about justice?

If we want to receive mercy, we must show mercy to others.

James 2:13 \_\_\_\_\_ without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy \_\_\_\_\_ over judgment.

### STEPS TO BEING MERCIFUL

1. \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 9:13

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 2:4-5

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 6:36

1. Read 2 Corinthians 13:5. In what way is showing mercy to others a test of our Christianity?

2. Define mercy.

Pastor Peter said that Mercy isn't only seen in grand gestures, but in every-day life. Give some examples of mercy being shown in day to day interactions with others.

3. Read John 8:1-11. The religious leaders wanted to trap Jesus into saying something that they could use against Him. So they brought an adulterous woman to Him. How was this a trap?

4. Jesus response was to start writing on the floor. Why do you think Jesus did this? Although we have no idea what Jesus wrote, it's possible that He quote Hosea 6:6, where it says, "I desire mercy not acrifice." Jesus used this statement on at least two other occasions in dealing with the Pharisees. Read Hosea 6:6 and Matthew 9:9-13. What does Hosea 6:6 mean? (Also see: 1 Samuel 15:22; Psalm 51:16-17; Matthew 12:7) What do you see as being the main teaching of these passages?

5. Jesus finally stands and says to the accusers, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." Jesus didn't stare the men down, but stooped down and continued to write on the ground. One by one they left. This speaks well of the men in that their conscience's were not completely dead. We don't specifically know who these men were. It would be interesting to know what they did next. When our conscience convicts us of something in our own lives, what must we do?

6. What about justice? God is also a God of justice. Does mercy mean that there is no justice?" How is the justice of God fulfilled?

7. Read James 2:10-13 (Also read Matthew 6:14-15). What is the reward of being merciful, and what is the consequence of not showing mercy?