♦SERMON NOTES **♦**

Sunday, October 4, 2020

"Beyond Just Me"

(Matthew 5:7; Luke 10:25-37)

Our world seems full of those who live life self-centered, self-serving, and self-satisfying. Most are inclined to believe happiness comes from fulfilling their own plans, following their own agendas, and meeting their own needs. Jesus teaches us that a blessed life follows a different path.

MERCY FINDS THREE MAIN EXPRESSIONS

- 1. Forgiveness
- 2. Sympathy
- 3. Good Deeds

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important command. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands" (Matthew 22:37-40, CSB).

1. Demonstrate kindness to strangers

"If all you do is love the lovable, do you expect a bonus? Anybody can do that. If you simply say hello to those who greet you, do you expect a medal? Any run-of-the-mill sinner does that" (Matthew 5: 46-47, The Message).

2. See the value of small acts of kindness

"Why, anyone by just giving a cup of cold water in my name is on our side. Count on it that God will notice." (Mark 9:41 The Message).

3. Practice love that goes beyond normal kindness

"And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two" (Matthew 5:41, CSB).

4. Give God the credit for your kindness

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16, CSB).