
Today's Quote:

"I sometimes think that [Matthew 6] is one of the most uncomfortable chapters to read in the entire Scriptures. It probes and examines and holds a mirror up before us, and it will now allow us to escape.

There is no chapter which is more calculated to promote self-humbling and humiliation than this particular one. But I thank God for it, because it is only the man who has truly seen himself for what he is who is likely to fly to Christ, and to seek to be filled with the Spirit of God who alone can burn out of him the vestiges of self and everything that tends to mar his Christian life and living."

Martyn Lloyd-Jones,
Studies in the Sermon on the Mount

"The true Christian is aware that he is being watched, but for him the audience is God."

John Stott, *The Message of the Sermon on the Mount*

Upcoming Lessons:

Sunday, August 17th
Kingdom Security
(Matthew 6:19-34)

Sunday, August 24th
Kingdom Relationships
(Matthew 7:1-20)

Sunday, August 31st
Kingdom Commitment
(Matthew 7:21-29)

The Sermon on the Mount

Kingdom Righteousness Before God (Matt. 6:1-18)

A. Key Points to Review from Previous Lessons

1. The Sermon on the Mount is about _____ and _____ as a citizen of the Kingdom of God.
2. In this central section of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus focuses on the topic of the Christian's _____ before man (5:21-48) and before God (6:1-18).
3. Jesus calls Christians to live in a way that is different both from the _____, and from the (non-Christian) _____.

B. Key Principles of Kingdom Righteousness Before God (6:1)

1. Jesus expects the citizens of the Kingdom of God to _____ their righteousness before men and to _____ their righteousness before God.
2. Jesus assumes we will give, pray, and fast; but He also assumes we will tend to do those things for _____ reasons.
3. To glorify God, we must ____ what brings glory to God in a _____ that brings glory to God.

C. Key Examples of Kingdom Righteousness Before God (6:2-18)

1. Giving to the Needy (6:2-4)
2. Praying (6:5-15)
3. Fasting (6:16-18)

D. Key Remedies of Kingdom Righteousness Before God

1. Depend upon Jesus, the founder and perfecter of your faith.
2. Deliberately seek to live righteous lives before men more _____, and to live righteous lives before God more _____.
3. Distrust yourself, and allow God's _____, _____, and _____ to convict and guide you in your Christian life.

Questions for Reflection

1. In addition to giving, praying, and fasting, what are other Christian activities where your motivation may be unhealthy?
2. Read Matthew 5:4, 5:6, and 5:18. What does Jesus promise the Father will do for the righteous? While this will primarily happen in the future, God may give us hints of it in the present. Is there an example in your life?