

Matthew 6:1-15 (10/20/2024)

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ Matthew 6:1-15

1. How is Jesus' warning in Matthew 6:1 a fitting introduction to this week's passage?

2. Jesus' use of hypocrisy comes from the word "hypocrites" which referred to Greek actors from ancient theater who would take on a role and pretend to be someone they were not. Why is hypocrisy so damaging in the church and to the world?

3. Previously in Matthew 5:16, Jesus said, "...let your light shine before others so they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Explain how Jesus is not contradicting Himself regarding giving to the poor in Matthew 6:1-4? What do you think is the point He is making?

4. Discuss Jesus' instruction concerning how **not** to pray in Matthew 6:5-8. Do you think He is condemning public prayer? Explain your answer.

5. After telling us how not to pray, Jesus then proceeds to say, "Pray then like this..." What do you learn about God and about us from Jesus' prayer in Matthew 6:9-13?

6. Discuss the relationship between forgiving others and being forgiven (Matthew 6:14-15). Do you find this a struggle? Have you experienced the joy of forgiving and being forgiven?