

due September 17, 2017

Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof!
The Sermon on the Mount
Matthew 6

Monday (September 11)—prayerfully read and enjoy Mt. 6:1-6.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

Please keep class discussion moving this week to get through all the questions!! Mark the ones that contain the most profit for the class to discuss, and come back to them (perhaps at 9:55, after having gone through all the questions)! Some of the questions are simple, with the answers given directly in the text, and call for maybe ten seconds in class. Others are thought or self-judgment questions which call for reflective thinking. Also, please give opportunity for all to speak, with equal amounts of time “on the mic”! This special announcement is for all, as the set-up of our SS program is for all to be teachers, in the sense of Hebrews 5:12, bringing treasures found that week (Mt. 13:52)!

1. What is the wrong motive for doing righteous acts (alms) (6:1)? _____
 2. Compare Matthew 6:1 with 5:16. _____

 3. What is the reward that the hypocrites have when they sound a trumpet before them as they give their alms (6:2)? _____

 4. How might the Father reward the secretly-giving giver, as mentioned in 6:4? _____

- (self-judgment, I Cor. 11:31) Can you think of any good deeds you have done recently that you did not need to do and that you did them in such a way that only you and God know that you did them?
5. What reward do you suppose the hypocrites have when they pray with show in public, as mentioned in 6:5? _____

6. The Bible gives examples of appropriate **public** prayer (II Chr. 6:12ff; Isa. 56:7; Acts 4:24). While 6:6 (“enter into thy closet”) does not prohibit public prayer, putting the verses together suggests that our usual praying is to be in secret. Suggest an appropriate private-public prayer ratio! _____

Tuesday (September 12)—prayerfully read Matthew 6:7-15.

1. What do you suppose is vain repetition in prayer, as mentioned in 6:7? _____
 - 2-4. Paraphrase the Lord’s Prayer (6:10-13), putting it in your own words which you can pray, being specific in your wording! _____

- (bonus) Verse 9 reads “After this manner”—what do you suppose that means? _____

5. Give some ways in which people (might) have sinned against us, which people we should forgive. _____

 6. Find something helpful to meditate on and take with you for the day from this passage! Perhaps pray your heart-felt variations on parts of the Lord’s Prayer throughout the day.
- Wednesday (September 13)—prayerfully read Matthew 6:16-18.
1. Does this section in the Sermon on the Mount command fasting? _____
 2. What do you suppose is the reward for those who make themselves appear to others to be suffering when they fast (see 6:16)? _____
 3. Do you suppose this (seeking glory/sympathy from men rather than from God) applies to other kinds of personal suffering (for example, when people continually complain about the personal pain they feel)? _____

4. What are we to do when we fast (6:17)?

5. Compare 6:4, 6, and 18, and derive a general principle.

6. Are you aware of any areas you are violating this principle, meaning areas where you are more of a man-pleaser than a God-pleaser? _____

Thursday (September 14)—prayerfully read Matthew 6:19-24.

1. What depreciates (diminishes the value of) earthly treasures (6:19)? _____
2. What do you suppose is the treasure of 6:19-21?

3. How can we lay up treasures in heaven?

4. Paraphrase 6:22; take about three minutes wrestling with this—do your own work (first), not researching this in other translations or commentaries. _____

5. How can your eye be evil? _____

6. Take Matthew 6:19-21 with you for the day, and let it further permeate your soul! (Judge yourself on your success in laying up treasures in heaven versus on earth.)

Friday (September 15)—prayerfully read Matthew 6:25-30.

1. What is the overall thought of this section (did you read it, verses 25-30)? _____

2. Does this passage teach “don’t plan or work”?

3. What three examples from nature does Jesus use to make His point (in these verses)? _____

4. What was lacking in these worrying disciples (6:30)? _____
5. (Advanced) We (people) speak of “**form and function**,” **form** having to do with how things look (ugly or beautiful and everything between) and **function** having to do with getting things done (they do or they don’t and everything between). From this passage, which concerns God? _____

(bonus) Does anything in this section (6:25-30) indicate that God values human life more than animal life?

6. Take a verse from this section with you for the day.

Saturday (September 16)—prayerfully read Matthew 6:31-34.

1. What three things are identified as things also sought after by the Gentiles (6:31-32)? _____
- 2-3. Compare 6:31-32 with 6:7-8. _____

- *4. Recite 6:33! Did you? _____

(bonus) How do you suppose we seek first the kingdom of God? _____
5. (Advanced!) There is some humor in 6:34—what is it?

6. Attempt to put into practice today not worrying (6:34), first identifying an area where you are tempted to do so (perhaps worrying over His love for you or that you will be able to get everything done or that maybe you have cancer or beginning Alzheimer’s)!

Sunday (September 17)—prayerfully review Matthew 6.