

Lesson 11: The Sermon on the Mount (II)

Objective: To learn that we should be happy to do God's will, which means to do what Jesus taught us to do.

Background: The Jews were taught, as their religious duty, to give to the poor and to pray three times every day – at 9a.m., 12 noon, and 3p.m. Besides that, the Pharisees fasted (ate no food) two days a week. (Luke 18:9-14) The Pharisees were the religious leaders of the Jews. They made it the goal of their lives to keep every little law, but they didn't really understand the meaning and the purpose of God's laws and had misled the Jews in their teachings.

Instructions: Read Matthew 6 first before you do the lesson. Read over carefully the verses given at the end of each question before answering it.

Let's Think: A "hypocrite" is a person who "pretends" and who is not sincere. Jesus said we, as the people of God's Kingdom, must not follow the hypocrites when we practice our religion. (Matthew 6:1-6.)

1. Out of what motive (means the reason for doing things) did the hypocrites give to the poor and pray? Did they please God? How did they pretend? (Matthew 6:2,5)

2. Is it easy to pretend? (Give an example) Do people know when we are pretending? If not, why? But how about God? Are you pretending? Be Honest!

Jesus then taught us the right way to pray as the people of God's Kingdom. He gave a prayer as an example and the prayer became known as "The Lord's Prayer". (Matthew 6:7-15)

3. Since we are children of God, how should we call God when we talk to Him in prayer? And why should we not feel embarrassed to talk to Him in prayer? (Matthew 6:9a)

4. Since we are people of God’s Kingdom, we should care about God’s business, For what three things about God’s business should we pray? (Matthew 6:9b-10) By the way, do you respect and love God’s name or do you play with it? Are you happy to do God’s will –what Jesus taught us to do (Your will be done)?

5. What else does Jesus teach us to pray besides asking for the things we want? (Matthew 6:12,13) Why is it important that you forgive others? (Matthew 6:14,15) And what should you do when you are tempted to do wrong (sin)? (Matthew 6:13)

6. Was there something you did because you knew God wanted you to do and you are glad that you do it? If so, share it with others? Think of one thing God wants you to do that you will be happy to do for Him this week?

Let’s Remember: “Pray then like this, “Our Father who are in heaven, hallowed by Your name. Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”
(Matthew 6:9-13)

