



“Go make disciples...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (Mt 28:19-20)

Word Wednesday Lesson 20 – Sermon on the Mount III: Seek First *Matthew 6*

Maimonides’ Eight Levels of Charity

1. Give unwillingly
2. Give willingly but inadequately
3. Give only after being asked
4. Giving before the request comes
5. Give when the donor and recipient know each other’s identity
6. Give when the donor knows the recipient but the recipient does not know the donor
7. Give in secret so that neither party knows the other
8. Act so that the recipient will no longer require charity

Walking in His Dust - Jesus does not demand things His Talmidim are incapable of doing.

“I can do _____ things through _____ who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13

Therefore there is _____ for those who are _____” Rom. 8:1

Memory Verse #20: *Matthew 6:33* Seek _____ kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided to you.

Lesson notes & questions:

Lesson Reflections (review before Apply nights):

- What is at least one new thing I learned about loving God or my neighbor?
- Which topics would I like to know more about or need clarification?
- How does the Holy Spirit want me to apply the lesson’s Scripture to my discipleship?



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APPLY!

- Share your “Lesson Reflections” responses with the group.
- Read **Matthew 6:1**.
 - Briefly revisit what it means to be “Salt” and “Light” as Jesus uses the terms in Mat. 5:13-16.
 - How can disciples reconcile Mat. 6:1 with Mat. 5:16, “Let your light shine before others so they may see your good works...”?
- Read **Matthew 6:2-4**.
 - Why should we give?
 - How do some donors “sound a trumpet” today? Is publicizing a church’s offering information “sounding a trumpet”? Why or why not?
 - Review the list on the front page of this handout. At which level is most of your giving? What steps can we take to incorporate some of the higher levels?
- Read **Matthew 6:5-15**.
 - Why should we pray?
 - How would you summarize Jesus’ message in verses 5-8?
 - Read Psalm 22:1-2. Have you ever prayed in anger or disbelief? Describe.
 - What do you notice about the pronouns in verses 9-13? What does this teach us?
- Read **Matthew 6:16-18**. Share an experience you have had with fasting as a religious practice.
- Read **Matthew 6:19-24** and **Matthew 19:16-22**.
 - In what ways do the things/stuff of this world try to exert control over us?
 - Practically speaking, what does it mean to store treasure in heaven?
 - Why does Jesus say the eye is the “lamp” rather than the “light”? What is the difference between the two?
- Read **Matthew 6:25-34**.
 - How do we work in the present and plan for the future without succumbing to worry and fear?
 - What is the relationship (if any) between material stuff and one’s tendency to worry?
 - Is Jesus essentially teaching “don’t worry; be happy?” Why or why not? If not, what is He teaching?
 - If you aren’t a worrier, what practical advice can you share with those who may have a worrying mindset?

GO!

What is God saying to you, and how are you responding?

What is something you are excited about right now?

What is a big challenge you are facing right now?

Who is on your heart right now and why?

Review the last lesson’s GO section. What prayers has God answered?

Pray for one another!