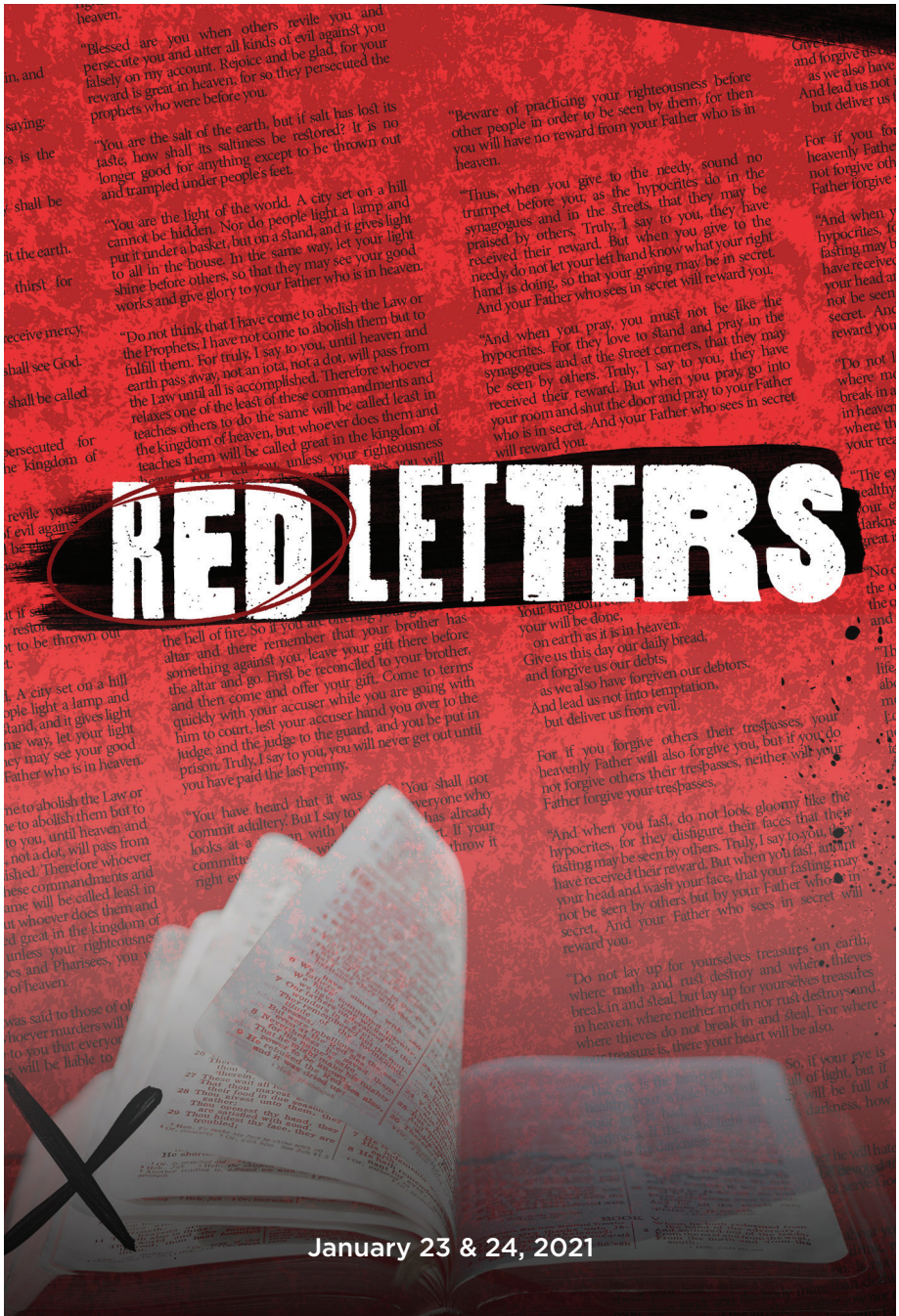




Home Teams

DISCUSSION GUIDE



"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? If it is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under peoples feet.

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

RED LETTERS

"Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

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.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Do not break in on a man's house where he is not expecting you, just as you do not enter a man's house first to sell anything, unless you have been invited to do so. And in the same way, do not give to anyone what is holy, unless you have been invited to do so.

"Do not be like the hypocrites, who make their fasts and give their tithes, but neglect the more important things of the Law and the Prophets. You shall not neglect these things, but you must also do the more important things. For you shall not leave the weight of the tithes, but you shall leave the more important things. For you shall not leave the more important things, but you shall leave the weight of the tithes.

"Do not be like the Pharisees, who love to be honored by men, but hate to be honored by God. You shall not be like them, but you shall be like your Father who is in heaven, who does not love to be honored by men, but who loves to be honored by himself.

"Do not be like the Pharisees, who love to be honored by men, but hate to be honored by God. You shall not be like them, but you shall be like your Father who is in heaven, who does not love to be honored by men, but who loves to be honored by himself.

"Do not be like the Pharisees, who love to be honored by men, but hate to be honored by God. You shall not be like them, but you shall be like your Father who is in heaven, who does not love to be honored by men, but who loves to be honored by himself.

"Do not be like the Pharisees, who love to be honored by men, but hate to be honored by God. You shall not be like them, but you shall be like your Father who is in heaven, who does not love to be honored by men, but who loves to be honored by himself.

"Do not be like the Pharisees, who love to be honored by men, but hate to be honored by God. You shall not be like them, but you shall be like your Father who is in heaven, who does not love to be honored by men, but who loves to be honored by himself.

"Do not be like the Pharisees, who love to be honored by men, but hate to be honored by God. You shall not be like them, but you shall be like your Father who is in heaven, who does not love to be honored by men, but who loves to be honored by himself.

"Do not be like the Pharisees, who love to be honored by men, but hate to be honored by God. You shall not be like them, but you shall be like your Father who is in heaven, who does not love to be honored by men, but who loves to be honored by himself.

January 23 & 24, 2021

Preparing

BIG IDEA: Living our lives ready for Christ's return honors Jesus and moves His kingdom forward.

TEACHING POINTS:

- Jesus calls us to have a faith that is ever-ready for His return.
- An ever-ready faith prioritizes the mission of God over our own comfort.
- An ever-ready faith looks after the "least of these."

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 25:31-46



OPENING QUESTIONS

1. It is National Soup Month. What's your favorite soup?
2. What is an everyday emergency for which you stay prepared?

IN THE WORD

1. Who are "the least of these" that Jesus mentions?
[Matthew 25:31-40](#)
2. What do Jesus' words to the righteous show us about His heart toward "the least of these?" [Matthew 25:37-40](#)
3. The righteous and unrighteous had the same response to Jesus. What is different about their faith? [Matthew 25:41-46](#)
4. Scripture teaches us that we are saved by our faith and not our actions. What does this passage teach us about the type of faith Jesus wants us to have? [Matthew 25:41-46](#)

MAKING IT PERSONAL

1. What causes someone's faith to be self-centered rather than centered around others?
2. What would it look like for you to have a faith that is ever-ready for Jesus' return?
3. Who is someone you know (neighbor, friend, colleague) who is dealing with sickness in their family or someone you know who is a healthcare worker?
4. Join the Care Challenge. How will you commit this week to take someone a meal? Share with your group.

CONTINUED LEARNING

Read [James 2:14-17](#). How does this passage line up with the type of faith Jesus wants us to have?

- I WILL:**
I will obey something from God's word in the next 24-48 hours.
- I WILL:**
I will share, with either a believer or non-believer, what God is teaching me and what I'm learning.

Notes & Prayers



pathwaychurch