

WEEK FOUR

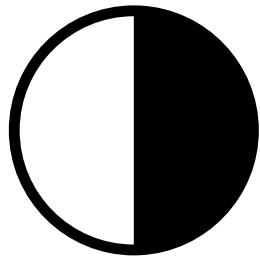
Habit *and* Heart



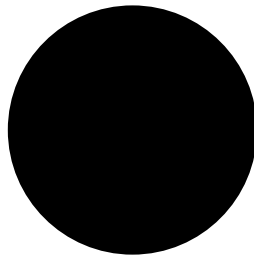
NOTES:

1. Hypocrisy

- Hypocrisy is ethical behavior done _____ from the heart.
- Hypocrisy is an _____ only righteousness and not a whole person discipleship.



Hypocrite
(outwardly righteous).
Not whole.
Lesser righteousness.
Praise of man.
No flourishing.



Disciple
(outwardly & inwardly
righteous). Whole.
Greater righteousness.
Praise of God.
Flourishing.

"Hypocrites try, in various twisted ways, to make a show of being near God when they are in fact running away from him. For while the whole life ought to be one uninterrupted journey of obedience, these people revel defiantly and try to placate God with a few paltry sacrifices."

–John Calvin

2. Habit

Matthew 6:1

[1] "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. (ESV)"

- Jesus is about to talk about three _____ of Judaism (giving, prayer, and fasting).

NOTES:

- These habits are not just private, but more _____.
- Rewards aren't opposed to _____.
- Good behavior gets _____.
- Giving



Whether it is a good citizen award, social media spotlight, or a scholarship, good behavior gets rewarded.

Matthew 6:2-4

[2] "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. [3] But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, [4] so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (ESV)

- The Greek word for secret means hidden or _____.
- Praying

Matthew 6:5-6

[5] "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. [6] 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. (ESV)

- There is nothing _____ with praying in public. Paul tells the Colossian church to "continue steadfastly in prayer" together, but to be "watchful [or vigilant] in it."
- Jesus is saying that when you pray in public or in private, pray as if you had an _____ of one.

NOTES:

Matthew 6:7-8

[7] “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. [8] Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. (ESV)

- We don't need to use _____ words in our prayer because our Father is already _____ in us.

Matthew 6:9-15

[9] Pray then like this:

***“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.***

***[10] Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.***

[11] Give us this day our daily bread,

***[12] and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.***

***[13] And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.***

[14] For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, [15] but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. (ESV)

- Jesus is not saying that our _____ is dependent on our forgiveness of others. He is saying that our forgiveness of others is dependent on our _____.

- Fasting

NOTES:

Matthew 6:16-18

[16] "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. [17] But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, [18] that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (ESV)

"Jewish law allowed individuals to wash their faces during the voluntary fasts that accompanied prayer for rain and even for the first three days of national fasting. However, if rain still did not come, the fast was intensified. The law specifically forbade certain activities during the later, more severe national fasts, and these included eating, drinking, washing, anointing, putting on sandals, and sexual intercourse. Thus, washing one's face helped conceal that one was privately mourning and abstaining from food.... Anointing, putting oil on the head or body, was also prohibited during strict fasts or the fast accompanying the Day of Atonement.... Washing and anointing normally marked the end of a fast (2 Sam 12:20). Thus washing and anointing the head gave no impression that one was fasting and ensured that 'you don't show your fasting to people but to your Father who is in secret' (Matt 6:18). Following Jesus' instructions kept the fast a matter between only the disciple and God. Although this prevented the disciple from enjoying the temporary reward of having his ego stroked by those who were impressed by his outward expression of piety, it assured the disciple that 'your Father who sees in secret will reward you.' (v. 18). Just as the Father saw the quiet gift and heard the prayer in the closet, He also observed the private fast and would bless the disciple for it."

-Charles Quarles



Listen to "Instead of a Show" by Jon Foreman. How does this song address hypocrisy and outward-only religion?

3. Heart

Matthew 6:19-21

[19] "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, [20] but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. [21] For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (ESV)

HOMEWORK:
ANSWER THE REFLECTION
QUESTIONS BELOW.

Go to your class reading plan on page 4. Read the assigned Scriptures and write any observations below.

Examine yourself. Where is your heart when you are practicing the habits of giving, prayer, fasting, Bible-reading, Bible-study, meditation, memorization, fellowship, and worship? Is it toward God or others? Is it whole or divided? Is it an outward or inward practice? Do you do it for the P.O.O. (Praise Of Others)* or for the praise, glory, and honor that comes from God?

- **Seminary+ students, read *An Introduction to Biblical Ethics* - Chapter 4: The Coherency of the Law.**

One of the best ways to retain what you're learning is to tell it to someone else. Share with someone what you are learning in this class. Also, make sure that you continue reading your Bible throughout this class. Let this supplement your time in the Word, not replace it. For a plan and help go to C3Rowlett.com/resources. See you next week! GITKOG&BF.

*Credit: Jonathan Pennington