



City On a Hill 12

Matthew 6:5-8



Mat 5:13-16 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. (14) Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill **cannot** be hid. (15) Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. (16) Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.



By way of review...

- Identity-
Ambassadors
- City on a Hill-
Foundations
- The Beatitudes
 - 5 Characteristics
 - 3 Way of dealing
with life
- Christ fulfilled the
law.

By way of review...

- Anger and Hatred
- Lust and Divorce
- Taking Oaths
- Retaliation and Loving Your Enemies
- Giving Alms





The Lord's Prayer?

What is Prayer?

Προσεύχομαι (proseuchomai) pros-yoo-khom-ahee- To pray to God, make supplication, or to offer prayers.

Websters

1. Solemn address to a sovereign including adoration, expressions of our sense of God's perfection, confession? Intercession for others (Matt.5:44), can be extemporaneous, printed or written.
2. A *formula* for a church service, worship public or private.
3. Part of a memorial or petition to a public body i.e. "Our prayer is that this legislature will do that which is moral."

Definitions Continued...



What is a supplication?

Humble earnest petition or request.

What is a formula?

A list of ingredients or constituents of something.

Prayer in this context. A humble earnest petition to God.

Petitioning for what exactly? There is a lot that a person could petition for.

What must be included in this petition?

Let's cover the technical parameters...

Faith- James- 1:6 In a prayer for wisdom, “Let Him ask in faith, nothing wavering.” This can be confusing. Not a wavering faith but a wavering on the morality of the issue at hand. But still faith is required.

In the Name of Jesus- John 16:23 “ask the Father in my name.” Not necessarily literally speaking it, but through His redemptive adoption and reconciliation.

Through the Spirit- Rom. 8:26 “... the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.” Causes us to groan from His moving in our hearts and minds.

One final definitive thought...

- Php 4:6-7 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. (7) And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.



Now The verse

Some pitfalls that arise...

Mat 6:5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are*: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

Let's get offensive, shall we?



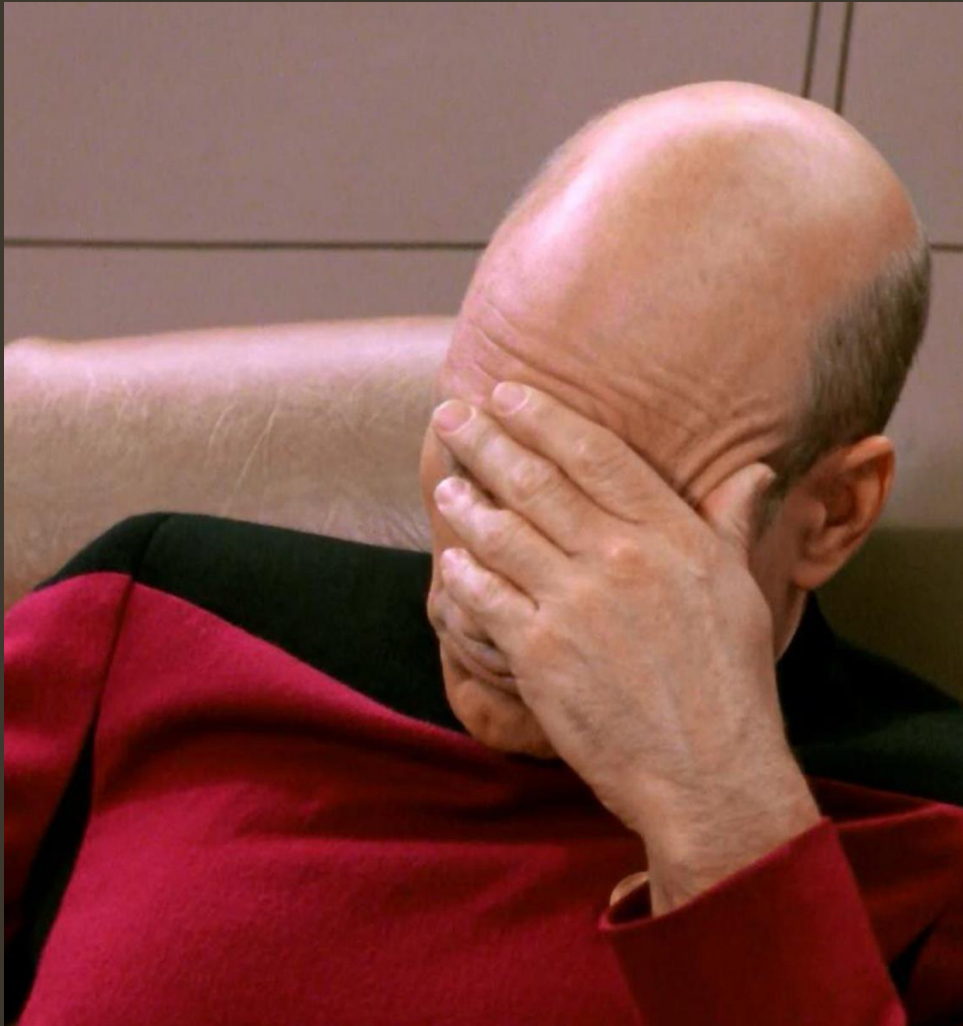
- This warning deals with natural pride.
- Public Prayer, powerful, prideful, or formula?
- This is Jesus taking head on the traditions of the Pharisees.
 - Public prayer in general.
 - Positioning of the body during prayer.
- They have their reward?
 - Sermons for prayers, who is it for, who receives the reward?
 - Public petitions for miracles, if they occur, does God really receive the reward?
- The inherent danger of public intercession and petitions is that man receives some of the glory.

How to remove pride?

- **Mat 6:6** But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.
- God desires that prayer not be a public display but a private endeavor.
 - This takes us out of the equation
 - Secrecy is paramount
- God answers openly and receives by default 100% of the glory.
- Always a matter of motive as usual and the heart of the individual.



Let's get even more offensive, shall we?



- **Mat 6:7** But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen *do*: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.
- As heathens- their practice as in the Prophets of Baal v. Elijah, morning till noon (1 Kings 18:26)
- Father, father, father, father, father.
- Catholic repetitions
- Earnestly does not equal quantity.
- **Mat 6:8** Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

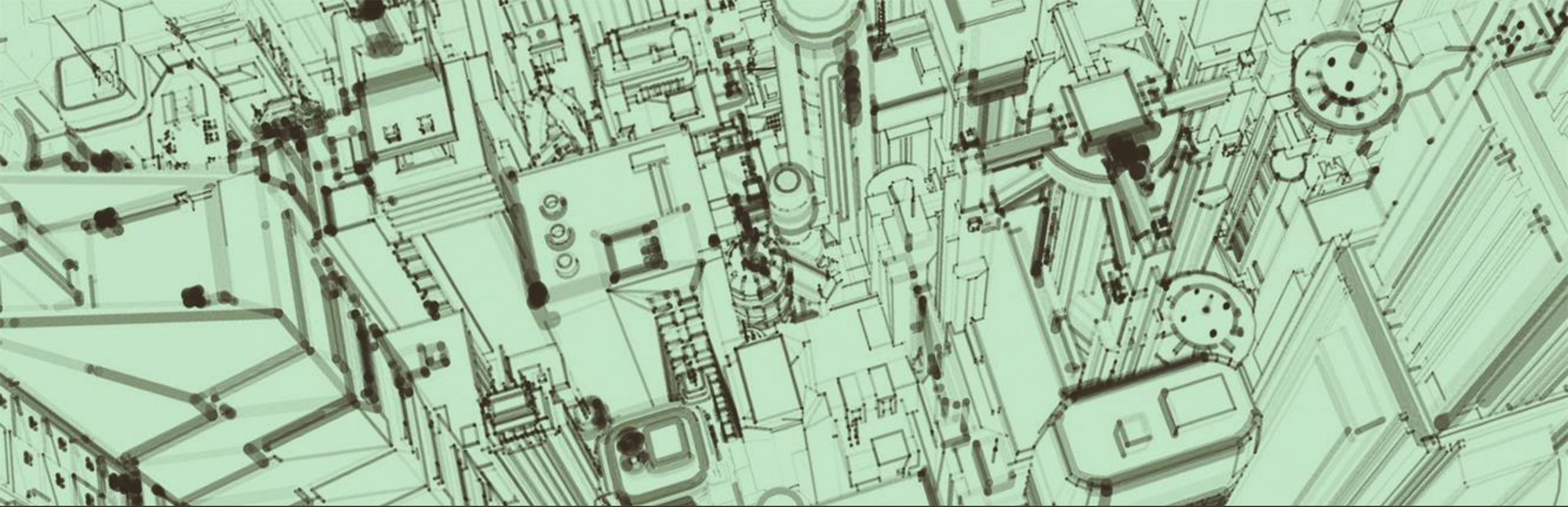
A person is kneeling in a field of tall grass, their back to the camera. Their arms are raised high, hands open, towards a bright sun that is partially obscured by a large, dark, dramatic cloud. The sun creates a strong lens flare effect. The sky is filled with various shades of blue and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is one of awe, hope, and spiritual connection.

Sum it up...

It is all about our hearts, and who we serve.

Hear and Do...

This is how we are light.



City On a Hill 12

Matthew 6:5-8

