

Masterclass

the sermon on the mount



MASTERCLASS (January 7 to March 24)

The idea of a “masterclass” is to learn from the world’s best experts on a variety of subjects. In a sermon recorded in Matthew 5 to 7, Jesus offers the ultimate — and original — masterclass on Kingdom living. The Sermon on the Mount doesn’t say “live this way to be my disciple” but rather “because you are my disciple, this is how you were meant to live.” Kingdom living is often in direct opposition to the way of the world. However, when we sit at the feet of the master and learn, we find a life like no other.

Group Discussion

Getting started: You can only keep two and you have to give up the other three. Which two do you keep? Chocolate, Coffee, Cheese, Chips, or Coke (meaning all soft drinks).

1. Read **Matthew 6:5-8**. What is the reward for people that only want to be seen by others? What does praying in private protect your heart from? Why is God found in the secret place?
2. Jesus tells us how *not* to pray, and how *to* pray. What are some modern day examples of each? Jesus is teaching us how to be in prayer what we are in life, and how to be in life what we are in prayer. Why is this kind of authenticity sometimes difficult?
3. Read **Matthew 6:9-13**. What stands out to you most in this prayer? How does this prayer serve as an outline (How is it all-encompassing but not all-inclusive)? What do you notice about the way it flows from one thing to the next? How is it focused on God and His kingdom and not our own? How does the content of your own prayer life compare?
4. Read **Matthew 6:16-18**. Take time to watch this **7 minute video** by John Mark Comer on fasting and discuss. What stood out to you from the video? Have you ever practiced the discipline of fasting? If so what was your experience?

5. In what ways might fasting in the way Jesus instructs us impact your life? Do you think fasting would be beneficial to your life? What would it look like? When would you do it?

Next Steps

1. What have you learned about God from His Word?
2. How is He asking you to apply it to your life?
3. When will you apply it?

Resources

- *The Sermon On The Mount* by The Bible Project
- *The Divine Conspiracy* by Dallas Willard

Next Week

We will continue our eleven-week series *Masterclass* with the sermon *Putting Worry In Its Place*. We will be in Matthew 6:25-34.

- **Jasper:** 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m. EST.
- **Loogootee:** 9 and 10:30 a.m. EST.
- **Tell City:** 8:30 and 10 a.m. CST.

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