

Discussion Name: Matthew Chapter 6
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I. Summary

Matthew 6 is Jesus teaching believers how to live with real spiritual discipline, not “religion for show.” Sid emphasized five areas Jesus addresses: giving, prayer, fasting, priorities, and dependence on God. In each one, Jesus warns against doing righteous things to be noticed by people, because that kind of performance has no heavenly reward. Instead, Jesus calls us to practice these habits with humility and sincerity, to seek God first, and to trust the Father to provide what we truly need rather than living in anxiety about tomorrow.

II. Scripture References

- Matthew 6:1–34
- Mark 12 (widow’s mite)
- Luke 12 (parable of the rich fool; true riches)
- Genesis (Abraham tithing; reference to Abraham and Lot)
- James 4:2

III. Key Themes and Takeaways

1. Jesus addresses believers about daily Christian living, not how to become a Christian.
2. Real righteousness seeks God’s approval, not people’s attention (doing things “in secret”).
3. Giving, praying, and fasting are expected parts of discipleship (“when you do,” not “if you do”).
4. What we treasure and prioritize reveals what rules our hearts (God vs wealth).
5. Worry shows misplaced dependence; seeking God first reshapes our anxiety and decisions.

IV. Discussion Questions

1. When you think back on the teaching, what stood out most to you about Matthew 6 and why?
2. Jesus warns about practicing righteousness “to be noticed by people” (Matthew 6:1). What are some modern ways we can drift into that, even without meaning to?
3. In the giving section (Matthew 6:2–4), what do you think Jesus is aiming at when he says, “do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing”? What might that look like in everyday life?
4. Sid said these practices are “when you do” not “if you do.” Which of the five areas (giving, prayer, fasting, priorities, dependence) feels strongest for you right now, and which feels weakest?
5. In Matthew 6:5–8, Jesus contrasts showy prayer with private prayer and warns against thoughtless repetition. What helps you keep prayer relational and honest rather than performative or automatic?
6. The teaching connected forgiveness with prayer (Matthew 6:14–15). How have unforgiveness or resentment affected your closeness with God or your ability to pray freely?
7. Fasting (Matthew 6:16–18) was described as making space to focus on God. What are some “distractions” in your life that compete for your attention, and what could it look like to intentionally step away from them?

8. Jesus says, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19–21). What are some clues that reveal where your treasure is right now (time, money, stress, excitement, planning)?

9. Matthew 6:24 says we cannot serve both God and wealth. In real life, what does it look like to "serve wealth" even if we would never say that out loud?

10. Jesus repeats "do not worry" and then gives the anchor: "seek first his kingdom" (Matthew 6:25–34). What is one area where worry most often shows up for you, and what might "seeking first" look like in that specific area this week?