

Part Two
Lesson 5
“The Sermon on the Mount”
“Don’t Be Hypocritical”

Scripture to Study: Matthew 6:1-18

Introduction:

After challenging the Jews to rise above the “righteousness” of their leaders, Jesus now turns to a condemnation of the hypocritical actions of those same elite leaders. Jesus is making yet another attempt to show the inadequacies of those elite so that the masses would turn to Him and His truths. Jesus wants the Jewish nation to accept Him as the Messiah... something most of them failed to do.

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

1. What is the definition of a hypocrite?
2. What is the incorrect method of engaging in charitable actions?
3. Deeds done in that incorrect manner receive what kind of reward?
4. How is it possible for my left hand to not know what my right hand is doing?
5. Where did these elite leaders like to engage in prayer? Why?
6. Where is a good place for the unhypocritical to pray?
7. How should we pray?
8. How many seconds did it take for you to read this example prayer? Do We sometimes like to be heard for our “many words”?
9. What did Jesus tell this particular audience about the forgiveness of sins?
10. Why would these people want it to appear that they had fasted?

THINK ON THESE THINGS:

Without judging the motives of those who lead prayer, what vain repetitions do we often hear in our public prayers?

Should we fast today?