

Application: If you are a Christian, how have the good gifts that you have received in the gospel of Jesus Christ shaped your perspective on and habits of giving?

2. Praying that Glorifies God (Matthew 6:5-15)



What kind of praying did Jesus tell His listeners to avoid? What might this type of prayer look like for us?



How does the model prayer help us understand what prayer is really all about?



3. Fasting that Glorifies God (Matt. 6:16-18)

How familiar are you with fasting? Is this something you seek to make a practice of or not? How does Jesus' teaching on this subject challenge you?



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What are some ways we might fast wrongly today? What is the reward that Jesus promised in His teaching?

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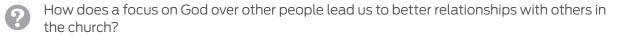
Application: What sorts of rewards and blessings do you most seek from God? What needs to change based on today's study?

Conclusion

As we lean into these practices in the manner that Jesus has called us to, we find these not as means to gain right standing before God but means by which we enjoy fellowship with God and are able to reflect deeply on the work of the gospel on our behalf.



Do you find yourself more worried about impressing those around you with your religious devotion than you are about pleasing God? What needs to change that you might be focused on God?



How might living in a way that is focused on pleasing God and not other people give you opportunities to have gospel conversations with others?

Daily Readings

- Monday Exodus 20:3-6
- Tuesday Colossians 3:5
- Wednesday Galatians 4:8

- Thursday 1 Corinthians 10:7
- Friday 1 Corinthians 6:9
- Saturday Matthew 13:44