

Family Discipleship Resource

April 7-13

(Matthew 6:1-6)



G – Gather for Prayer

Father,

Thank you for your selfless sacrifice. Help me to worship you in Spirit and truth, directing all my attention and focus in your direction. Keep me from a selfish and self-righteous spirit.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

R – Read the Text (Matthew 6:1-6)

1 Take care not to practice your righteousness in the sight of people, to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven. 2 "So when you give to the poor, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, so that they will be praised by people. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. 3 But when you [b]give to the poor, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your charitable giving will be in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you. 5 "And when you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they [c]will be seen by people. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. 6 But as for you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you."

O – Observe what God has said

What kind of attitude should we have as we worship God?

How should we give to the Lord? How should we pray?

W – Work on Application

Everything we do communicates something about what we believe. Beware of those tendencies that draw attention to oneself rather than the Lord. Look out for that which is done to promote oneself instead of the gospel message. If we are concerned more about what others think about us and what the world sees, we run the risk of exhausting any possible reward in this present life rather than seeing reward in the next. The audience that matters most in our worship is the audience of one—The Lord God.

What practices and/or preventative measures might we apply to our lives to protect ourselves from what Jesus describes in this passage?

Family Weekly Memory Verse: "He must increase, I must decrease"—John 3:30