

## **THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 8/9-10/2021 *Matthew Chapter 6***

**PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!**

**MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)**

**THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS112, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!**

**MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484**

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

**Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 - Passcode: 087484**

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,87858644763# US (San Jose) +13462487799,,87858644763# US (Houston)

**Dial by your location**

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York);

**Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763**

**Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763>**

**TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).**

**THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!**

**MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340**

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746?pwd=TK5oVjN0TzdpWjE3UC9Oam05a21uQT09>

**Meeting ID: 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340**

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,85309150746# US (San Jose) +12532158782,,85309150746# US (Tacoma)

**Dial by your location**

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York);

**Meeting ID: 853 0915 0746**

**Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746>**

Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221 For Audio & notes from previous studies - [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com)

## **OPENING PRAYER**

**Objectives of Study - Not seeking self-glory! Not seeking the praises of men, but with the result - "AND THEY GLORIFIED GOD!"**

*Jer 23:29 "Is not My word like a fire?" says the LORD, "And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?"*

*Jer 33:3 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'*

*Heb 10:24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,*

*2Pe 1:13 Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you,*

*2Pe 3:1 Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder),*

## THIS WEEK'S STUDY: The Gospel According to Matthew! *Chapter 6* –

**Do Good to Please God – (vs. 1-4)**

**The Model Prayer – (vs. 5-15);**

**Fasting to Only be Seen by God – (vs. 16-18);**

**Lay Up Treasures In Heaven – (vs. 19-21);**

**The Lamp (eye) of the Body – (vs. 22-23);**

**You Cannot Serve God and Riches – (v. 24);**

**Do Not Worry – (vs. 25-34)**

### ***Do Good Deeds to Please God!***

**Mat 6:1** *"Take heed (imperative; continually, must always take heed!) that you do not do your charitable deeds (righteousness) before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven.*

**Mat 6:2** *Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites (14x in Matthew, only 5x in OT and 17x in NT) those who put on masks, deliberately pretending to be something you aren't; opposite of integrity). do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.*

- **Jesus, in His teaching method, would often make a statement and then He would amplify and illustrate** what He meant by that statement. He will use “therefore” 8 times in this chapter. Here is the statement that He makes at the beginning of this section.
- **Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them.** We were told in (**Mat 5:16**) *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.* There's no contradiction with the statement in what He is saying now. **Take heed** how you do your good deeds! Be careful that your motive isn't to be noticed, to be praised by men. There are two natures in us. One, is that we want to do good, but the other is saying, I don't mind if others see and offer praise to me for doing it! There are two ways by which we can let our light shine. The one is the proper way, and that is, that it brings glory to God. The other is the wrong way. It brings glory to us.
- **You can do your righteous deeds in such a way as you draw attention** to yourself. You draw praise to yourself and glory to yourself. “Don't toot your own horn!” There is a temptation in all of us that want to be recognized by men. We are told here that in the day that we stand before God to be judged, our works are going to be judged before God what he has done. Many of the works that we have done, will be no reward for them in heaven. Our works will be tried by fire and many of them are as wood, hay and stubble. They will be burned in that trial by fire. Be careful of the motive that, in your heart, that there isn't that desire to be seen of men. If your motive is to be noticed by men, to draw their praise and adulation, then you will have no reward from your Father, which is in heaven. Your reward will be in that “Oooh,” and in that “Aah” of the people.
- **It is much better to receive a reward from your Father in heaven.** Jesus illustrates this in three areas of the righteousness that we do. The first area is in **our giving**. The second is in **our praying**. And the third is in **our fasting**.

**Mat 6:3** *But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,*

**Mat 6:4** *that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees (continually watching) in secret (intimately) will Himself reward you openly.*

**Mat 9:6-8** *But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"—then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." [7] And he arose and departed to his house. [8] Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.*

**Act 11:18** When they (Gentiles in Cornelius' house in Caesarea) heard (Apostle Peter) these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life."  
**Gal 1:23-24** But they were hearing only, "He (Apostle Paul) who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith which he once tried to destroy." [24] And they glorified God in me. How often is my life bringing glory to God?

- **Your giving to God is a private matter.** It's something between you and God. It's best that it remains that way; a private matter, something between you and God. **Do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing:** If it were possible, let our giving even be hidden from ourselves, from any congratulating ourselves of our own giving. Hypocrites to it to be seen. The child of the Kingdom, realizing the Father is in heaven. They do it secretly, individually prompted by the Holy Spirit!
- **When you do it in secret, your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.** So do you want the rewards from God or from man? That's what it comes down to. When I do my righteousness, my righteous deeds, do I want man's approval or accolades, or do I want God's approval and God's reward?

### **The Model Prayer**

**Mat 6:5** "And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

- **The idea of praying in the corners of the streets was again to impress people** with the fact that "I'm so spiritual, I can't even wait to get to church to pray." They were thinking, "I hope everybody realizes how spiritual I am. I hope they see me."
- **We need to watch what's in our hearts.** Be careful that you don't do your righteousness before men to be seen of men. Be careful that that is not a self-centered thought or a motive that might be going through your mind. Because if that be the case, the only reward you will receive is that from man. You have nothing as far as the heavenly Father is concerned with the reward for those kinds of things that draw attention to yourself.

**Mat 6:6** But you (the pronouns are all singular in this verse), when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

- **Concerning the subject of prayer, we are told that it should be secret and sincere.** The idea is of a private place. a store-house, a separate apartment, one's private chamber or closet, where we can withdraw from the world and shut the world out and commune with God. A private place where we can impress no one but God. It does not mean you can't pray publicly, but the motivation of praying should never be that of praying, just to being seen praying.
- **Prayer is a very deep, personal matter between you and God.** Now there is a place for public prayer. (Mat 18:19) "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.
- **In the book of Acts when Peter and the disciples came back and reported to the church** the things that had transpired to them while they were before the Council and the Sanhedrin, the church prayed together. When Peter was in prison, the church was praying together.
- **There is the place of public prayer.** Often, however, there is a problem because frequently public prayer, and even prayer from the pulpit are designed more to impress men than it is to impress God. Many of the prayers are for the people to hear, rather than for God to hear. We need to be careful that we do not our righteousness before men to be seen or heard of men.

**Mat 6:7** And when you pray, do not use vain (mindless, meaningless) repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. (Ecc 5:2) Do not be rash with your mouth, And let not your heart utter anything hastily before God. For God is in heaven, and you on earth; Therefore let your words be few.

- **Jesus warns against vain repetitions, all words, repeated over and over, with no real meaning.** All lips and not mind or heart. A person thinks that he is heard for his much speaking and praying long prayers!

- **We need to be reminded that prayer is talking to the Father.** It's laying out our heart before Him. It's baring my soul unto God. Thus, our prayers ought to be thought out and articulated well. If someone would come up to me and talk to me like they talk to God, using vain repetitions, I would think, what is wrong with them? Like using many "Hail Mary's" and the "Our Father's", which can be just vain repetitions. Other examples are the worshippers of Baal on Mount Carmel (*1Ki 18:26*) and of Diana in the amphitheater at Ephesus who yelled for two hours (*Act 19:34*). The Moslems may also be cited who seem to think that they "will be heard for their much speaking"

**Mat 6:8** *"Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.*

- **God knows your needs.** You come to your Father. You can pour out your heart to Him. You can share with Him the most intimate feelings; even your doubts, your fears, your anxieties. He wants you to just cast those on Him. Even though He already knows what we need, He wants us to come to Him and ask.

**Mat 6:9** *In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.*

- **Our Father in heaven:** In giving us, *Our Father*, it is a model, not necessarily to be repeated by rote, but it's just a model. It gives you sort of the model for prayer for believers of all conditions.
- **Notice that this so-called Lord's Prayer could not be the prayer of the Lord Jesus.** He couldn't pray this prayer. He couldn't join with you and me and say, "*Our Father*" because the relationship between the Father and the Son is the relationship in deity. It is a position, not a begetting. I became a son of God only through faith in Christ; therefore Christ couldn't join with me in saying, "*Our Father.*" See *John 17* for the Lord's prayer.
- **Hallowed be Your name, or let Your name be made holy.** By the "name" of God is meant, He, Himself, the perfections of His nature, and the several names by which He is known, and which we are to think and speak of with holy reverence. By sanctifying His name, is not meant a making Him holy, but acknowledging, and declaring Him to be holy, and a glorifying Him, and all His perfections. He is sanctified by Himself.
- **As a reminder on praying, we can look at our hand** to use as a pattern for prayer. **Your thumb is the closest** to you, so it can be a reminder to pray for those who are closest to you, the family members, those friends who are closest to you. We want to remember to pray for them.
- **Your second finger is your pointing finger**, and when the teacher is teaching you he is often pointing, "And now I want you to get this." It can be a reminder to pray for those who are instructing you. Pray for me. Paul asked the church to pray for him.
- **Your third finger, or your middle finger, is your tallest finger.** A reminder to pray for those who are in the high places of government. (*1Ti 2:1-2*) *Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, [2] for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.*
- **The fourth finger is the weakest finger** that you have. Thus, a reminder to pray for those who are weak.
- **The last finger is your smallest finger**, and that should remind you of yourself. Pray for yourself.

**Mat 6:10** *Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.*

- **Jesus said, (Mat 6:33) *But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*** It should be manifested in our prayers. The first desire, the first interest should be, *Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.* Next, we get to our own needs. There's nothing wrong with personal petition. (*2Ti 2:6*) *The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops.* I cannot impart to others what I do not have myself.
- **"Your kingdom come" is the Kingdom about which Matthew has been speaking**, the *Kingdom* which Christ will establish on this earth. This is a worthy petition for all of us to pray.

**Mat 6:11** *Give us this day our daily bread.*

- **This is a wonderful petition**, so simple yet one that should come from our hearts with great enthusiasm. It speaks of our utter dependence upon God. Our bodily wants, our physical necessities, all are supplied by Him day by day. "*Give us ... our daily bread*"—just as Israel gathered manna for the day, they gathered nothing for tomorrow. They were not permitted to gather manna for the next week. They could not hoard it. This **prayer gathers manna every day.** It shows man that he lives from hand to mouth. That even his bodily necessities, his basic needs, come from God.

**Mat 6:12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.**

- **Our Lord Jesus could not pray this—He had no sin to be forgiven.** As was said, it is not the Lord's prayer; it is the disciples' prayer.
- **Forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.** This does not refer to our salvation. Today God is forgiving us on the basis of what Christ has done for us, not on the basis by which we forgive—as touching the matter of our salvation. The redemption of God is in full view when God forgives us. He is speaking here to those who are already saved, those who already have the nature of God. He does not wait for you to forgive before He forgives. This is not His method of settling the sin question. He gave His Son to die, and it is on this basis that God forgives.

**Mat 6:13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

- **Do not lead us not into temptation.** These words give us somewhat of the wrong impression because James says God does not tempt any man. (**Jas 1:13-14**) *Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. [14] But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.* That is true—God does not tempt any man.
- **The word here translated “temptation”** (*peirasmos*) means originally “trial” or “test” as in (**Jas 1:2**) *My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials.* God does not tempt us to evil. But He does test or sift us. In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus said to Peter, James, and John, (**Luk 22:40**) *When He came to the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation.* That is the idea here. “Do not allow us to be led **into temptation.**” (**1Co 10:13**) *No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*
- **Deliver us from the evil one**—this deliverance is from **the evil one**. Deliver us from the Devil. Satan is today an awful reality. The world has tried many times to get rid of him. They laughed at Martin Luther who threw an inkwell at him. But recently we have had a turn in events. Any man who stands for God knows the awful reality of Satan. As we work in any church we become conscious of the presence of God and also dreadfully conscious of the presence of Satan. But we have this petition, **Deliver us from the evil one.**
- **The model prayer starts with God and ends with God: “Hallowed be Your name.” “Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever, Amen.”** Is that typical of my prayers?

**Mat 6:14 "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.**

- **It is interesting that as Jesus closes off this model for prayer, there is one of the petitions that He stops to re-emphasize. Only one!** He stops to emphasize the importance of forgiveness. This is a theme throughout the ministry and teaching of Jesus. Over and over, He emphasizes the importance of our forgiving others. Forgiveness is required for those who have been forgiven, especially us who have been forgiven much! We are not to harbor our bitterness towards other people. Jesus has much more to say about forgiveness. Here, the emphasis is on the necessity of forgiveness, which is not an option.

**Mat 6:15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**

- **You say, what does that mean?** It means that if you **forgive men their trespasses**, your heavenly Father will forgive you. **But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.** It's important that we are forgiving.
- **Jesus gave parables by which He illustrated the importance.** The idea being, **that God has forgiven us so much, we surely do not have the right to hold little grievances** against our brothers, such minor issues. (**Mat 18:33-35**) *Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?" [34] And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. [35] "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."*
- **Now Peter finally felt that he is catching on.** (**Mat 18:21-22**) *Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" [22] Jesus*

said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. I'm sure that he was stretching it in his mind, just to make points with the Lord. Jesus said, *Peter, seventy times seven!*

- **Forgiveness is not a matter of mathematics. It's a matter of spirit.** It is important that we are forgiving. As you go through the Gospels, there are many lessons that Jesus taught on the importance of forgiveness. It is interesting to note that in all of the petitions in the model prayer, only one is emphasized at the end.
- **As we consider the strong and sobering message here of our need of forgiveness,** will any of us walk out of this study and continue in any harboring unforgiveness toward anyone? May we indeed act on any conviction that we receive from the Holy Spirit! It would certainly seem that God wants us to take this subject of forgiveness very seriously! Do any of us want to maintain a strain in our relationship with others, as well as a strain in our relationship with the Lord!

### *Fasting to be Seen Only by God*

*Mat 6:16 "Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.*

*Mat 6:17 But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,*

*Mat 6:18 so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.*

- **Now the third issue. Giving. Praying. The third issue, fasting.**
- **They would put ashes on their face,** going around just looking haggard, causing people to say, "What's wrong with you, man?" "I'm fasting for the Lord." They would do things that would draw attention, that everyone would say, "Oh, look at that, fasting again. Isn't he spiritual?" The real problem with the hypocrite is being so self-centered. In the end, our only reason for pleasing men around us, is that we may be pleased.
- **Again, the idea is, are we doing things to impress people, or to please God?** If I'm doing it to impress people, the feedback that I get from the impression they get is all of the reward that I'll get for those righteous actions. It's interesting you can do the right thing with the wrong attitude and it nullifies what you've done. That is basically what Jesus is saying. So, in doing things for the Lord, don't do them to draw attention to yourself and the applause of men. But just do it as unto God! Now, that isn't easy. When you do something that's very magnanimous, very generous and very wonderful, oh how you want people to know what you've done! You've done something great, you want the world to know. The golfing preacher story.

### *Lay Up Treasures in Heaven*

*Mat 6:19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal;*

- **Now Jesus teaches us concerning our goods** and our attitude towards our material possessions. *Treasures on earth* are not intrinsically bad; but they are no ultimate value either. If this is the case, then how can we, as citizens of the eternal Kingdom of Heaven, be dedicated to the expansion of our earthly treasures?

*Mat 6:20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.*

*Mat 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

- **Now the reason why is, where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.** If you have invested in spiritual things, your heart's going to be in spiritual things. Your heart will follow where your treasure is! There, your heart will be! Our Lord says that we are to lay up for ourselves *treasures in heaven*. How can we do that? Instead of putting it in a Swiss bank, put it in heaven by giving it to the Lord's work down here. We need to make sure it is in the Lord's work. That the ministry that you are giving to that which will accumulate treasures for you in heaven. If it is used for the propagation of the gospel and to get out the Word of God, it becomes currency in heaven. That is how we *lay up*

*treasures in heaven.* The whole idea is that you can't take it with you. The story of the lady buried in her pink Cadillac..

### ***The Lamp of the Body***

***Mat 6:22 "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.***

***Mat 6:23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! (Psa 101:3) I will set nothing wicked before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not cling to me.***

- **We are exhorted to be careful what enters through the eye gate.** Be careful what you see. Be careful what you look at. When the eye is directed steadily toward an object, and is in health, or is single, everything is clear and plain. If it vibrates, flies to different objects, not singularly fixed, or is diseased, nothing is clearly seen. Everything is dim and confused. The man, therefore, is unsteady. The eye regulates the motion of the body. To have an object distinctly in view is necessary in order to correct and regulate action.
- **To steady themselves, high wire walkers fix their eyes** on some object on the wall, and look steadily at that. Jesus says, in order that the conduct may be right, it is important to fix the affections on heaven. Having the affections there - having the eye of faith single, steady, unwavering - all the resulting conduct will be appropriate.
- **But if your eye is bad,** diseased or lost. The light that is in us is the soul. If that soul is debased by fixed exclusively on earthly objects, and not fixed on heaven, how much darker and more dreadful will it be than any darkness of the eye! Greed or constantly setting our eyes on worldly things, darkens the mind, obscures the view, and brings in a dreadful and gloomy night over all the faculties, spirit, soul and body.

### ***You Cannot Serve Two Masters***

***Mat 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.***

- **Jesus said, "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven."** *You cannot serve God and mammon or money.* Jesus states that serving two masters is a simple impossibility. If you think that you are successfully serving two masters, you are deceived. It can't be done. As His children, we are not and cannot be faithful to Him, in serving anything but Him!

### ***Do Not Be Anxious***

***Mat 6:25 "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?***

- **Now Jesus teaches us concerning worry and anxiety.**
- **Life is more than just eating. The body is more than just dressing up, clothes.** Don't be worried about these things. Don't give anxious thought to these things. Don't give extensive thought to these things. Take no thought, don't spend a lot of time thinking about these things, food and raiment.

***Mat 6:26 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?***

- **Argument from the lesser to the greater.** So often in the New Testament you find that. (*Rom 8:32*) *He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?*
- **Now, if your Father feeds the birds, they don't have to cultivate the soil.** They don't plant seeds. They don't store into barns, but your Father feeds them! How much more will He take care of you because you're better than the birds? He is your Father! He's their Creator, but He is your Father!
- **Don't let the environmentalists fool you. You are better than the birds.** They would have you to think that you're not; that the birds are more important than you. If you destroy the egg of an eagle, you can be subject up to a thousand dollars fine and six months in jail. But the government will pay you to abort the unwanted child. Because you see, they call it just tissue and all, but why

don't they call the egg of an eagle just white and yolk, tissue. They know the life is there and that's why they will fine you a thousand dollars because it's an endangered species. But in God's eyes, you're more important than the birds. Maybe not the government's, but God's eyes. And that's what really counts!

- **Mat 6:27 Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?**
- **We are not to worry!** Worry accomplishes nothing! Nothing can be added to our lives by worrying. There may be greater sins than worry, but few, if any, are more crippling and useless!

**Mat 6:28 "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin;**

**Mat 6:29 and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.**

- **They don't spin cotton.** They don't spin the wool into threads to make the fabrics and so forth, or the yarn to make the fabrics.
- **Even Solomon! He wasn't dressed as beautifully as God dresses the fields** with the beautiful flowers. In Israel, the wild flowers are just absolutely breathtaking. Hillsides covered, looking like a carpet, beautiful colors. In the springtime, the wild flowers are just so beautiful.

**Mat 6:30 Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?**

**Mat 6:31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'**

- **Therefore do not worry!** You know that most of our worry comes about and is concerned with things of tomorrow or next week or next month. You don't worry too much about today because today is usually covered. But I don't know what I'm going to do next month. I don't know what I'm going to do tomorrow. It is usually, the worry is about what is ahead. When we get there, we oftentimes find that God has preceded, taking care of it!
- **The women, on the way to the tomb, the day that Jesus rose from the dead,** were discussing who's going to roll away the stone. They were all worried about who's going to roll the stone. When they got there, the stone was already rolled away. We, too, find that is so true about many of our worries. By the time we get there, it's gone. The worry was a futile exercise that didn't profit.

**Mat 6:32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.**

- **You don't have to worry about these things,** your Father knows you need them. Don't worry about these things. He know about everything you will ever need!

**Mat 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.**

- **Now that goes beyond just eating and drinking and wearing clothes.** For some of you who are greatly concerned about getting married. Who does God have for me to spend my future with? You are all worried and concerned and keep looking around to see who God has for you. But we are told to, **seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things will be added to you.** God will take care of you.
- **Put God first, that's the whole idea. God first.** You don't have to worry about the issues of life if God is first. He knows what you need, He'll take care of what you need. He's a loving Father, He cares for you. Just seek Him first. His kingdom and the life then will be in balance.
- **If these other things are top priority in your mind, then your life is out of balance.** Have a well-balanced life. You've got to have God at the top; seeking Him, His kingdom, His righteousness. Your relationship with God is the most important relationship in your life.
- **Your relationship with your fellowman cannot really be right, or all that it should be, unless you have a right relationship with God.** Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, get that relationship uppermost. That is the top priority. The other things will then be taken care of. They will be added.

**Mat 6:34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.**

- **Jesus is saying, “Don’t worry about tomorrow!** You’ve got enough to take care of today. Don’t worry about tomorrow. Just live for today. Take care of the things of today. Tomorrow, the Lord who saw you through today, will see you through tomorrow! He’ll see you through next week, and next month. He is faithful. *(Php 1:6) Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*
- **Sufficient for the day is its own trouble:** The women on the way to the tomb, the day that Jesus rose from the dead. On the way to the tomb, they were discussing who’s going to roll away the stone. They were all worried about who’s going to roll the stone. When they got there, the stone was already rolled away. We find that is so true about many of our worries. By the time we get there, it’s gone. The worry was a futile exercise that didn’t profit. We need to remember, in looking back, that the vast majority of the things we were worried about, never came to pass, did they?
- And so Jesus is saying, “Don’t worry about tomorrow.” You’ve got enough to take care of today. Take care of the things of today. Tomorrow, the Lord who saw you through today, will see you through tomorrow. And He’ll see you through next week, and next month. He is faithful!

### **SUMMARY POINTS:**

- **GUARD AGAINST SELF GLORY – SEEKING PRAISES OF MAN, RATHER, THEY GLORIFIED GOD!**
  - ✓ **GIVING** – *(Mat 6:1, 4) Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven! That your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.*
  - ✓ **PRAYING** – *Mat 6:6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.*
  - ✓ **FASTING** - *Mat 6:18 so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.*
- **FORGIVENESS** – Not to strain relationships with God and man through unforgiveness. Will any of us walk out of this study and continue in any harboring unforgiveness toward anyone?
- **I CANNOT SERVE TWO MASTERS: SERVING God only – not SELF – not MONEY, not WORRY, Not What shall we eat, wear, drink, not Tomorrow.**
- **SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS** – Make sure that God is the top priority in your life! All will be added to you. Your highest purpose – fellowship with God and being in His Kingdom (salvation)!

### **Closing Prayer:**

- Father, we thank You for the important teaching that Jesus has given to us concerning life. Help us, Lord, that we might take heed to the things that we have heard lest at any time we should drift away from the truth. Lord, plant these truths deep in our hearts that we might live by them. Help us, Lord, we need Your help. We thank You, Lord, that You have promised that You would help us in our time of need. Let the Holy Spirit, Father, take the Word of God and impress it deep upon our hearts. May we be doers of the Word, and not hearers only. To You be all the glory! In Jesus’ Name we pray, Amen.

**Closing Song:**

**TO GOD BE THE GLORY** – F. Crosby - Royal Albert Hall – (3:25)

*1 To God be the glory, great things He has done; So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin, And opened the life gate that all may go in.*

*Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son, And  
give Him the glory, great things He has done.*

*2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, To every believer the promise of God; The vilest  
offender who truly believes, That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.(Refrain)*

*3 Great things He has taught us, great things He has done, And great our rejoicing through Jesus  
the Son; But purer, and higher, and greater will be Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we  
see. (Refrain-2X)*

***Assignment for next week: Read Matthew Chapter 7***