



10-MINUTE BIBLE LESSON

Playing a Part

Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18

Before watching the video: What do you already know about the Sermon on the Mount? What teachings from it might you know already? What are you most curious about regarding these chapters?

Now read the passage twice. Take time to notice every sentence and phrase. You may even want to start and stop the video to spend more time with each. What stands out to you?

“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁷“When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

¹⁶“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. – **Matthew 5:38-48**

After watching the video: Reflect on what the video says regarding observing spiritual practices in private. Why did Jesus spend so much time teaching on this? What sort of attitude does it help contribute to a life of faith?

Conclude in prayer. Thank God for blessings, ask forgiveness for wrongs done, request help for uncertainty. Close with “amen.”