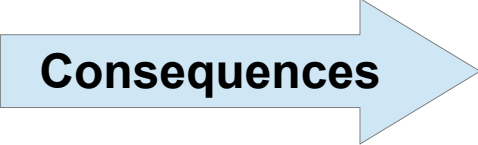
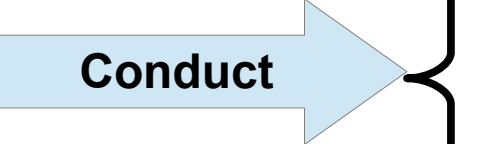


Treasure Hunt

- Where did the Lord Jesus get the idea that God will reward those who give to the poor?
- What did the word “hypocrite” mean to people in our Lord’s time?
- To whom should we always try to draw attention?
- How can you tell if somebody really is seeking God’s glory rather than his own?
- Why did the Lord not complain about praying in the temple?
- How is it possible for us as sinful people to come directly to God?
- Please give an example of private prayer from elsewhere in the Bible.

The Structure of the Sermon

	Setting	4:25-5:2	7:28-8:1
 Consequences	Blessings & Warnings	5:3-12	7:13-27
	Our Mission	5:13-16	
	Law & Prophets	5:17-19	7:12b
 Conduct	Toward Man	5:20-48 It was said ... but I say	7:1-12a
	Toward God	6:1-18 Be not as the hypocrites	6:19-34

Structure of Matt 6:1-18

<p>1 Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.</p>		
<p>2 Therefore when thou doest <i>thine</i> alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.</p> <p>3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:</p> <p>4 That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.</p>	<p>Mat 6:5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.</p> <p>6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.</p>	<p>Mat 6:16 Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.</p> <p>17 But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; 18 That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.</p>
	<p>7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. 9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, ... Amen. 14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.</p>	

Rewards for Giving to the Poor

Pro 19:17 He that **hath pity upon the poor** lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given **will he pay him again**.

Isa 58:6 *Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? 7 Is it not to **deal thy bread to the hungry**, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? 8 **Then shall thy light break forth** as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward.*

2Co 9:6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and **he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully**.

Heb 6:10 For **God is not unrighteous to forget your work** and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have **ministered to the saints**, and do minister.

Sounding a Trumpet...Literal or Metaphorical?

1Sa 13:3 And **Jonathan smote** the garrison of the Philistines that *was* in Geba, and the Philistines heard *of it*. And Saul **blew the trumpet throughout all the land**, saying, Let the Hebrews hear. 4 And all Israel heard say *that Saul had smitten* a garrison of the Philistines ...

Seeking Glory

Pro 25:27 *It is not good to eat much honey: **so for men to search their own glory is not glory.***

Joh 8:50 **And I seek not mine own glory:** there is one that seeketh and judgeth.

1Th 2:5-6 For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloke of covetousness; God *is* witness: **6 Nor of men sought we glory,** neither of you, nor *yet* of others,

Joh 7:18 He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but **he that seeketh his glory that sent him,** the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.

Cf. Matt 6:9, Hallowed be **thy name**

The Need for Secrecy

We cannot discern our own motives:

Psa 19:12 Who can understand *his* errors?
cleanse thou me from secret *faults*.

But the Lord can:

1Sa 16:7 for man looketh on the outward
appearance, but the LORD looketh on the
heart.

God's purpose in rewarding us:

Eph 3:21 Unto him *be* glory in the church by
Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world
without end.

v.5 When thou prayest ...

Psa 55:17 Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

Pro 15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.

Mat 7:7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Mat 21:22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

Luk 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

Eph 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Col 4:2 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;

1Th 5:17 Pray without ceasing.

Public Prayer?

Mat 23:14 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.

Synagogues and streets: What about the temple?

Luk 18:10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

Act 3:1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being* the ninth *hour*.

Recall its purpose:

1 Kings 8:23-53 (note vv. 30, 32, 34, 36, 39, 43, 45, 49: “hear thou ... in heaven”

Isa 56:6-7 Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant; 7 Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my **house of prayer**: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices *shall be* accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an **house of prayer** for all people.

How can sinful people come before a holy God?

Private Prayer

Heb 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are*, yet without sin. 16 **Let us therefore come boldly** unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Heb 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, **boldness to enter into the holiest** by the **blood** of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his **flesh**;

Examples of private prayer:

2Ki 4:33 (Elijah) went in therefore, and **shut the door upon them twain**, and prayed unto the LORD.

Mat 14:23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, **he went up into a mountain apart** to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

Mat 26:36-39 Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, **while I go and pray yonder**.

Act 9:40 But Peter **put them all forth**, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

Act 10:9 On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter **went up upon the housetop to pray** about the sixth hour: