

## Matthew 6:1-13 (New International Version)

- Matt. 6:1 “Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.
- Matt. 6:2 “So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.
- Matt. 6:3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,
- Matt. 6:4 so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.
- Matt. 6:5 “And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.
- Matt. 6:6 But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.
- Matt. 6:7 And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.
- Matt. 6:8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.
- Matt. 6:9 “This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
- Matt. 6:10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
- Matt. 6:11 Give us today our daily bread.
- Matt. 6:12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
- Matt. 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’

## Vocabulary

Read these words and definitions. Then match each word to the best definition.

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| 1. hypocrite (vs.5)   | a. the money (or something else) that you own someone; also ‘sin’            |
| 2. babbling (vs.7)    | b. someone who talks one way but acts another way                            |
| 3. hallowed (vs.9)    | c. speaking quickly in a way that is difficult to understand or sounds silly |
| 4. debt (vs.12)       | d. an old-fashioned word that means ‘respected’ or ‘honoured’                |
| 5. temptation (vs.13) | e. a strong desire to do something even though you know you should not       |

## Questions

1. Jesus said, “Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven (verse 1). When have you been tempted to make sure others see the good things you do?
2. Jesus said, “when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you (verses 3-4). Why do people help the poor? What is the motivation for giving to those who are needy?
3. Jesus tells us to give secretly and to pray secretly. Why does Jesus say that good deeds should be done secretly?

4. How does a person give secretly?
5. Jesus said, "when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you (verse 6). What are the characteristics of a good prayer? of a bad prayer?"
6. Jesus said, "when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words (verse 7). When do people pray in ways that are not sincere (using words they don't mean)? When are your prayers most sincere?"
7. Jesus taught us to pray, "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name" (verse 9). How do you think or feel when you think of God as "Father"?
8. Jesus taught us to pray, "your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" (verse 10). When is our human will a good thing? When is it not good?
9. What things would need to happen for this prayer (in verse 10) to be answered?
10. Jesus taught us to pray, "Give us today our daily bread" (verse 11). Have you ever asked God for food? Tell us about that.
11. Jesus taught us to pray, "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" (verse 12). When do people need forgiveness?
12. Jesus taught us to pray, "lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one" (verse 13). When do people face great temptation? How do you deal with temptation?