



# And When You Pray ...

Learning To Be Like Jesus From The Talk On The Hill

# Living My Life Before God

- ▶ **Matt.6:1 - “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.”**
- ▶ **Matt.6 is a picture of the Christian living his life in this world, in the presence of God in active submission to God. There are two parts:**
  - ▶ **1. How do I live my life before God? – 6:1-18**
  - ▶ **2. What am I trusting in for this life? 6:19-34**

# A RIGHTEOUS Life Before GOD

- ▶ **Heb.11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.**
- ▶ **A life lived before God:**
  1. **Must be lived by faith in God alone**
  2. **Walked by Faith will be rewarded by God**
- ▶ **As I live my life before the audience of ONE, counter-culture to today's society of trusting self and money, God will generously reward us with Himself**

# The Purpose Of Prayer

- ➔ **What is the purpose of Prayer?**
- ➔ **Prayer is conscious, personal communication with the Creator God of the universe.**
- ➔ **Communication is 2 way. Therefore, prayer is also God speaking to us.**
- ➔ **Prayer helps us to remember most of our Battles are Spiritual – Eph.6:10-13**
- ➔ **“Prayer is the most important thing you can do for the most important people in your life.”** John Piper

# A Hypocrites Prayer Life Before GOD

- ▶ 6:5 And when you pray, you **MUST NOT** be like the hypocrites
- ▶ They love to be noticed when they are praying - 6:5
- ▶ Who are they praying to?
- ▶ Why are they praying this way?
- ▶ That they may be seen by others - 6:5b;
- ▶ If they are praying to people, what is their reward?  
The adoration of people -6:1,5

# The Call To Secret Pray Before GOD

► How is Jesus saying we should pray? 6:6

1. We should pray – When you pray ...
2. We should pray alone, and or with your spouse
3. Shut the door so you are alone with God

# The Practice Of Secret Prayer

## 4. Why?

**A. So you are not worried about style. Rom.8:26**

- Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

**B. So you can humble yourself before God 2Kings 4:33**

**C. So you can be quiet to enjoy and listen to God**

**D. So that when God answers, you know it was God.  
God rewards the secret prayer**

# The Practice Of Meaningful Prayer

- ▶ **Matt.6:7 – When you pray...**
- ▶ **It is Not about many words.**
  - ▶ **It is not about how long you pray – heap up empty phrases. Acts 4:24-30**
  - ▶ **It is not about more people – like a petition**
- ▶ **It is about drawing close to God. He knows what you need.**
- ▶ **We draw near to hear his voice, expressing your heart and bringing your will into conformity with his**

# The Practice Of Secret Prayer

► So, are we praying? At all?

1. Its important – “When you pray” Repeated 3 times

► “Prayer is the most important thing you can do for the most important people in your life.” John Piper

2. It is the exercise of faith

3. God expects us to pray

4. It is the foundation of our relationship with God