

Practicing Righteousness Matthew 6:1-4

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Supplemental Scripture

Amos 5:21 Genesis 4:1-16 Matthew 26:20-25 Acts 5:1-11 John 17:4

Discussion Questions for Personal Life and Community Gathering

1. **Accountability.** Take a few minutes at the beginning or end of group time and discuss how your life has changed this week based on the teachings of Christ. How did you live differently? How have your perceptions changed? How did your reactions change? What did God point out in your life or in what areas did He convict you? Has repentance occurred? If so, in what areas of your life?

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2. **What Jesus Taught.** Read Matthew 6:1-4. What does Jesus teach against in verse 1? What is the end result when this happens? What is the reward for the service described in verses 1-2?

Describe the picture of giving seen in verse 3. What is the reward for this kind of service?

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3. **What Jesus Meant.** On the surface, Matthew 6:1 seems to contradict Matthew 5:16. What is the difference?

What is the intent of verse 3? Discuss the results of practicing phony righteousness (see supplemental scriptures).

Discuss the differences in rewards found in verses 2 and 4.

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4. **Application.** A.B. Bruce states, "We are to show when we are tempted to hide, and when tempted to show, we are to hide." Discuss this statement. How do you struggle in "showing" your works? How do you struggle in "hiding" your works?

We are called to seek those rewards that are eternal, not temporal. How do you struggle with this? How does the world combat our calling?

Prayer: In closing read John 17:4. Pray this for you and your family. Pray that we would glorify God on this earth by simply doing what He has called and given us the strength to do. Pray that Summit Crossing would be a church that is courageous to show our works and humble enough to hide our works all to the glory of God. Finally pray that our hearts would crave those rewards that are eternal and despise those that are temporal.

Next Week: The Lord's Prayer