

## Home Group Discussion Questions

TBC SERMON SERIES: Learning From Jesus

Message #9: The Right Reward

Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18

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To watch or listen to this sermon, go to [www.templebiblechurch.org](http://www.templebiblechurch.org)

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### MY STORY:

- 1) While public prayer and fasting are not as common today, what other types of religious actions do we often use today as markers of being “religious” in the world’s eyes?
- 2) What has motivated you to give to the needy or to charities in the past? How does it compare to motivations for unbelievers?

### QUICK REVIEW:

This week we continue with our series Learning From Jesus, a look at the Sermon on the Mount. This is probably the most famous teaching section by Jesus found in Scripture, providing his disciples a contrasting framework for viewing their lives with each other and God than was popularly held. Was there anything from this week's sermon that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you? How would you summarize the main ideas of this week's message?

### DIGGING DEEPER:

Read Matthew 6:1-4.

- 1) What problem does it look like Jesus is addressing here? Is there a parallel in today’s culture?
- 2) What role does reward from “your Father in heaven” have in motivating believers to give to the needy? How does it relate to giving out of love for our neighbor?
- 3) Who would be considered needy? Is it conceivable that a believer might never give to the needy?

Read Matthew 6:5-8.

- 4) How would you summarize Jesus’s two main points in this section? Are these an issue today?

- 5) What other corrections might Jesus give us regarding prayer today?
- 6) If the Father already knows what we need, what is the purpose of prayer?
- 7) What is the difference between public and private prayer?

Read Matthew 6:16-18.

- 8) What is the purpose of fasting? Why is it not practiced widely today in our culture?

### **TAKING IT HOME:**

- 1) Is there a concrete way you can help others or “give to the needy” anonymously this week?
- 2) Are there ways you can privately grow in you devotion and commitment to God this week?  
What would that look like? What is preventing you from doing so?

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### **Prayer Requests:**

