

Read the Word: Matthew 6:1-18

Disciple Your Family: Discuss how we can do good deeds and pray to honor and glorify God, not to be seen by people.

Discuss the following Key Truths and how to apply them to life. Use the questions to spark discussion.



Key Truth: Do Righteous Deeds for God's Glory, Not Your Own (Matthew 6:1-4)

APPLY: Do good deeds quietly and discreetly out of love for God and others, not to be seen by people.

- *Why is it tempting to want our good works to be seen by others?*
- *How has social media increased the temptation to have our works seen by others?*
- *How can we guard against doing good things to be seen by people, rather than to please the Lord? (Be careful not to intentionally attract attention; don't mention our service to others; ask forgiveness for pride and seek to keep the focus on God; etc.)*
- *When serving others, how can we make sure our hearts are in the right place and we're not simply looking to pat ourselves on the back for a job well done?*



Key Truth: Pray for God's Glory, Not Your Own (Matthew 6:5-15)

APPLY: When praying, include elements of Jesus' model prayer.

- *Do you think Jesus intended His prayer to become a specific prayer to be repeated or a model of what elements should be included in our prayers? Explain your answer.*

APPLY: Remember you are praying to your all-knowing and all-powerful Father who loves you and wants what is best for you.

- *How does knowing God loves you and wants what is best for you affect your prayers?*

APPLY: When praying, focus on God's will and truth rather than what sounds good to other people.

- *God's Word tells us our prayers should align with God's will and plan (1 John 5:14-15). How should this affect how we pray?*

APPLY: Pray for God to supply your daily needs, including forgiveness of daily sins.

APPLY: Forgive others as God forgives you through Christ.

- *Why is it difficult to forgive some people? Why is it important to do so?*



Key Truth: Fast for God's Glory, Not Your Own (Matthew 6:16-18)

APPLY: Seek God by fasting, but don't let others know you are doing so.

- *How does fasting help us focus on God?*
- *Why did Jesus emphasize that fasting should be done in secret?*
- *In what ways does the Christian life contrast with the self-promotion we often see in today's world?*
- *How can we make sure we're living for God's glory and not our own glory?*

Build a Foundation: Discussion questions for elementary students.

- What is prayer and why is it important? (Prayer is talking to God. It helps grow your relationship with Him.)
- Why is it important to praise God in your prayers?
- Why is forgiveness an important part of your prayers?
- When do you find it easy to pray? When do you find it hard?

Work together to memorize the Verse of the Month: *Matthew 6:33*



Discuss This Week's Building Block:

Prayer is talking with God.

Everyday Extras:

Read the Lord's Prayer together. Go to the bonus tools on the home section at www.d6family.com. Download the different parts of the Lord's Prayer and cut the strips apart. As you talk about the different parts of this model prayer, glue the corresponding strip to empty boxes and stack the boxes on top of each other. Remind family members Jesus gave us this prayer to help us talk to God.

Preschool Highlights:

Today your child learned mercy is when you don't get the punishment you deserve. **The Bible Teaches Me** in Matthew 5:7 those who show mercy are blessed for they will be given mercy. We receive mercy from Jesus and He wants us to show mercy to those around us. Your child heard a story where Jamie Webster learned an important lesson on mercy from his parents.