

Sunday 6th March 2022

Matthew 6:1-6 New International Version – UK

Giving to the needy

6 'Be careful not to practise your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

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 honoured by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. **3** But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Prayer

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. **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.



Picture: twitter

Matthew 6:16-21 New International Version - UK



Fasting

16 'When you fast, do not look sombre as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. **17** But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, **18** so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Treasures in heaven

19 'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. **20** But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. **21** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

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“Christ challenges us to live from a place of authentic worship in secrecy rather than the hypocritical pretence of outward religion meant to impress and deceive.”

Lent is a time to take off our masks and come as we are.

1. How do the images help you understand the message of the passage?
2. How does the message apply to our living as followers of Jesus?
3. What might you need to change in how you live because of the challenge from the passage?
4. What will you do different?
5. Who will you tell?

During the week reflect on this passage
before we meet on: Sunday 13th March 2022

Luke 4:1-13 New International Version - UK

Jesus is tested in the wilderness

⁴ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

³ The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.'

⁴ Jesus answered, 'It is written: "Man shall not live on bread alone."'

⁵ The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And he said to him, 'I will give you all their authority and splendour; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷ If you worship me, it will all be yours.'

⁸ Jesus answered, 'It is written: "Worship the Lord your God and serve him only."'

⁹ The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down from here. ¹⁰ For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you
to guard you carefully;

¹¹ they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

¹² Jesus answered, 'It is said: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."'

¹³ When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

1. What stands out for you?
2. How does this passage relate to your everyday experience?
3. How do you overcome temptation?
4. How has God helped you in the past in your moments of struggle, temptation & testing?

LIVE DIFFERENTLY

Reflections Through Lent Encouraging Us To
Live With A CHRIST LIKE Perspective