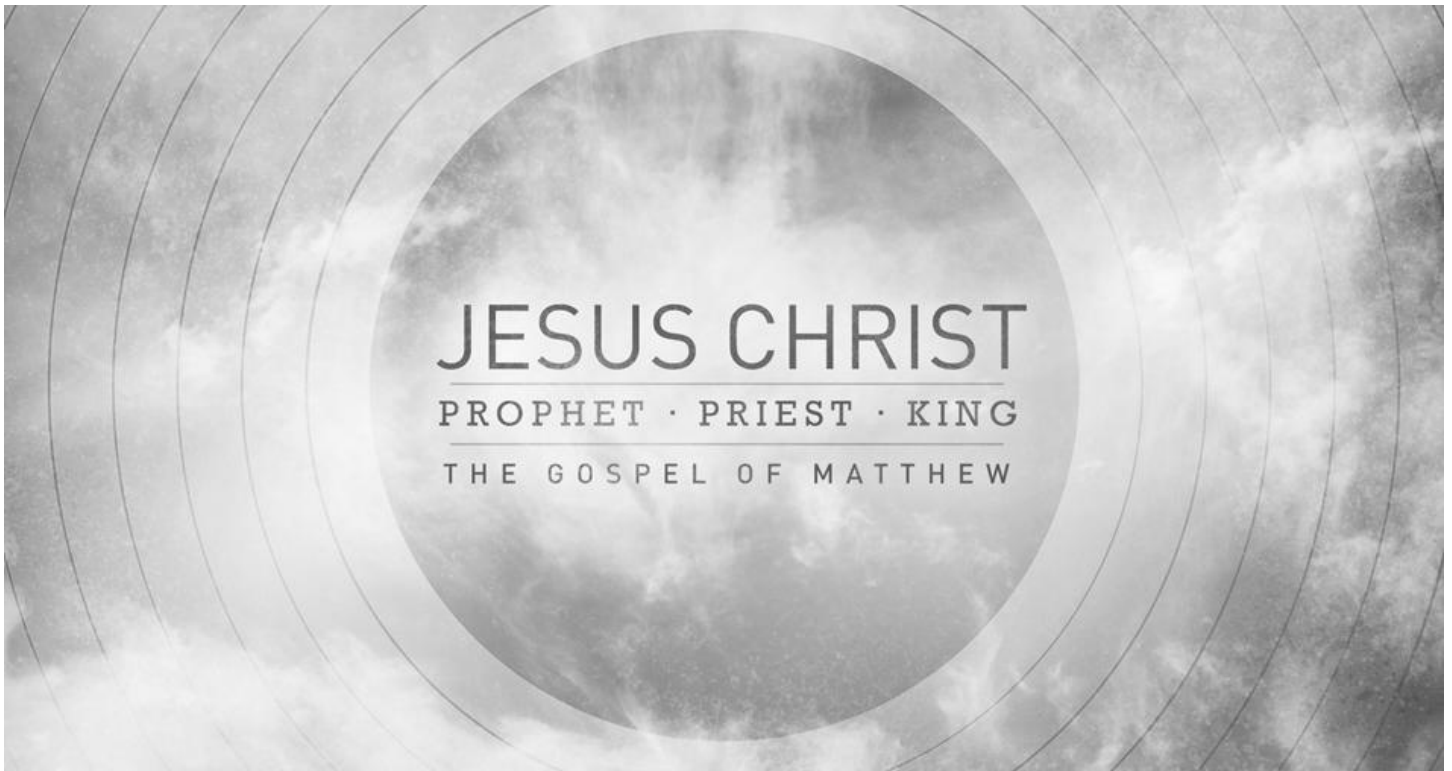




MATTHEW 6:1–18

Introduction

- The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) was a sermon Jesus preached to his _____ (Matthew 5:1).
- The Sermon on the Mount has three main aims:
 - It exposes our sin.
 - It drives us to repentance and faith in Jesus.
 - It shows us how to live lives that honor God.
- Part of living a life that honors God is the proper practice of _____ (means of grace, spiritual formation, keeping the heart).

“While the overarching transformation is God’s work in us and not ultimately our work in ourselves, the Bible also makes clear that _____ in the Christian life involves our active, intentional effort and energy ... Clearly, then, the Bible portrays Christian growth as both God’s work and, in some lesser but no less real sense, our work.” (Matthew Bingham, *A Heart Aflame for God*)

The Big Idea

- Jesus does not want his people to publicly practice their righteousness _____ to be _____ by others (Matthew 6:1 ... 5:13-16).

What did Jesus say about giving, praying, and fasting?

- Jesus assumed his people would _____ to God's Word (Matthew 5:1 ... Deuteronomy 18:15, Hebrews 1:1, 2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- Jesus assumed his people would give _____ and _____ (Matthew 6:2-4 ... 2 Corinthians 8-9).

"The use of your money and how you give it is one of the best ways of evaluating your relationship with Christ and your spiritual trustworthiness ... That's why it's said that your checkbook tells more about you than almost anything else." (Donald Witney, *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*)

- Jesus assumed his people would pray _____ and _____ (Matthew 6:5-15).

"A _____ person is *ungrateful* because he does not thank God, *self-righteous* because he does not confess his sins to God, *self-centered* because he does not ask God to bless other people, *presumptuous* because he does not pray even for his daily needs, *irreverent* because he does not praise God nor pray for His kingdom to come, and *unfriendly to God* because his prayerlessness evidences that he does not enjoy being with God. If your heart is absolutely prayerless, then you are not a child of God. Your first step toward cultivating a prayer life is the step from death to life. You must repent of your sins and trust in Christ alone for salvation. What then of the true believer who has a praying heart but finds himself stumbling in his prayers? How can he improve? He must take hold of himself and take hold of God." (Joel Beeke, *How Can I Cultivate Private Prayer*)

- Jesus assumed his people would fast to seek _____ (Matthew 6:16-18).