



- 5) Mark in your Bible (if you choose) the places in Matthew 5:21-48 where Jesus says, “*You have heard it said*” and “*but I tell you.*” Write the verse numbers below and a phrase that explains how each of Jesus’ commands went beyond the “letter of the law” (the literal interpretation) to address the “spirit of the law” (the true intent of the Scriptures, which includes inner thoughts and attitudes).
- 6) In Jesus exhorts, “Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”
- a) How would you explain this verse in the context of Matthew 5:21-48 (what is Jesus asking of us)?
  - b) Considering all you have learned in Questions 4, 5, and 6, in what area of your life do you need to raise your standard?

Read Matthew 6.

- 7) Jesus teaches on hypocrisy in 6:1-18.
- a) Which three verses contain the word “hypocrite” and what spiritual disciplines does Jesus address with regard to each?
  - b) How does Jesus’ discussion of hypocrisy fit into the context of the earlier part of the “Sermon on the Mount” (as covered in Questions 1-6)?
- 8) Reread Matthew 6:1-4 and write out a plan to be secretly generous to someone this week. Once you have carried it out, note the ways your spiritual life was affected by your generosity.
- 9) How could you alter the way you pray publicly in order to avoid praying hypocritically?

Reread the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13.

- 10)** From verse 10: Give a specific example of how God's will being done on earth as it is in heaven relates to *your* personal life.
- 11)** From verse 11: What kinds of ordinary (daily) things do you often forget to talk over with God?
- 12)** From verse 13: What recurring temptation will you begin praying against in advance?

Read Matthew 6:19-7:29.

- 13)** Matthew 6 and 7 covers various aspects of the life of any true disciple of Jesus. Inner qualities and attitudes were discussed in chapter 5. Up to this point in chapter 6, you have already read about the disciplines of secrecy in giving, prayer, and fasting. Make a list of the remaining subjects Jesus covered in Matthew 6:19-7:27 using a sentence or phrase to describe what Jesus expects of you as His true disciple.
- 14)** In Matthew 7:17-23, Jesus says that true disciples will be known by their "fruit." What kinds of "fruit" (evidence) do the following passages name: Matthew 5:3-10 with Galatians 5:22-23; Matthew 28:19-20 with Romans 1:13; Colossians 1:10, 2 Peter 3:11, and Hebrews 13:15?
- 15)** Reread Matthew 5:19b with Matthew 7:24.
- a)** According to Jesus' illustration in Matthew 7:24-27, how does putting into practice what we are learning add value to our spiritual lives? Give an example of how this is true in your own life.
  - b)** Considering the importance of putting into practice what we learn, which of the many foundational principles in the "Sermon on the Mount" is the Lord impressing on you to practice more faithfully?