

# THE THINGS DISCIPLES DO

Lesson 4

Wednesday,  
January 28

A \_\_\_\_\_ is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully \_\_\_\_\_ will be like his teacher. (Luke 6:40)

Jesus' sermon on the mount is full of teaching that trains his disciples to be like him and in this lesson, we zero in on Matthew 6.

"\_\_\_\_\_ of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be \_\_\_\_\_ by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

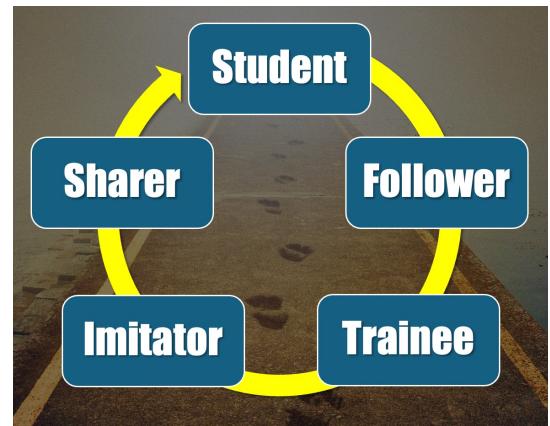
"Thus, when you \_\_\_\_\_ to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in \_\_\_\_\_ will reward you." (6:1-4)

Notice also what he taught in 6:16-18:

"And when you \_\_\_\_\_, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who \_\_\_\_\_ in secret will reward you."

**Disciples serve with the right \_\_\_\_\_ in mind.** But this section of Jesus' sermon also teaches us that **disciples \_\_\_\_\_** (6:5-15). And in the latter section of Matthew 6, **disciples seek first things \_\_\_\_\_**. In 6:19-21 he teaches us about laying up treasures on earth versus laying up treasures in heaven. In 6:24 he very straightforwardly teaches that no one can serve two masters. "You cannot serve God and money." And the chapter concludes with that famous section on not being anxious about our lives (6:25-34). "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

What have we seen? What do we need to understand and apply? Let's dig in...



## For Class & Family Discussion:

- When God tells us to “beware of” something, what does he mean? Why would Jesus warn his disciples to “beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them” (6:1)? What’s the big deal about giving to the needy (6:2-4) or fasting (6:16-18) with the goal of drawing attention to myself?
- Multiple times, Jesus assures us, “your Father who sees in secret will reward you” (6:4, 6, 18). How should that shape what we do as disciples and why we do it?
- What should we learn from Jesus’ warnings about prayer in 6:5-8?
- “Pray then like this...” In 6:9-15, Jesus provides a model for prayer. What stands out to you? How can this train us to pray like disciples of Jesus?
- In your own words, what does it mean to “lay up for yourselves treasures on earth” versus “lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven” (6:19-20)?
- “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (6:21). Why is this a critically important truth for us to remember as disciples?
- How is Jesus seeking to teach us and train us to deal with anxiety in 6:25-34?
- Matthew 6:33 seems like a bedrock passage that we need to know, memorize, and apply each day of our lives. How should it shape everything else we know and do as disciples of Jesus?
- In our next lesson, we’ll take a careful look at the last chapter in this great sermon, Matthew 7. “Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them...” It would be great to take a look ahead: how does Matthew 7 train us to be more like Jesus?