

Matthew 6:1-43

Study #7

Step 1: Read the Whole Section: Note any questions and mark any design patterns you notice.

Step 2: Answer the Study Questions

1. How many references to the “Father” do you count: _____ (Optional: mark with F in margin) Why do you think that the “Father” (rather than “God”) is emphasized by Jesus so much in this section?

2. Look up the word “hypocrite” in a dictionary and provide a definition:
(Extra points if you can find the *etymology / literal root meaning*)

3. In 6:2-18, Jesus addresses three practices of piety. Fill in the chart below for each one:

Verses:	Practice (When you...)	What They Do	What They Receive	What You Do	What You Receive
	1.				
	2.				
	3.				

For discussion: In the practice of piety, what are the hypocrites concerned with, vs. what are the disciples concerned with? What is the difference in the rewards?

4. Why do you think Jesus uses “Our Father” and “Our daily bread” and “Our trespasses” instead of “My Father...” etc.?

5. Why do you think Jesus begins by praying for the Father’s name to be hallowed (kept holy) and what does that teach us about prayer?

6. What do we learn about prayer by the phrase “on earth as it is in heaven”?

7. Some of the language/translation is different than what we say in church. Some phrases are not included here. The wording is different in Luke’s Gospel (Luke 11). What is this teaching us about the Lord’s Prayer?

8. After the prayers, in v.14-15 Jesus talks about forgiveness. What does forgiving others have to do with our prayers to the Father?

9. Look at the verses about fasting. Are you in favor of the practice of Christians fasting today? Why or why not?

6:19-24

10. What are the two types of treasure Jesus contrasts and what is the ultimate destiny of each?

11. Provide some examples of things that we set our eyes on that darken our body:

12. What happens when a person's relationship with possessions / accomplishment becomes more important than a person's relationship with God? Likewise, what happens to our relationship with other people?

13. What are some ways that Jesus demonstrates that God is his only master? And what does this teach us for our own life, possessions, time, energy, goals?

6:25-34

14. If you had to summarize what Jesus is saying into one phrase / sentence, what would you say:

15. How does this section relate to the previous section on heart / treasure in v.19-24?

16. What is left for us to focus on / seek after if we let go of anxiety? (see v.32-33)

17. How does Jesus' emphasis on the "Fatherhood" of God help us understand this section?

Step 3: Write Out "Reflection"

<p>Reflect</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Choose a main verse in this section that stands out to you as important or inspiring2. What does this text teach us about ourselves?3. What does this text teach us about Jesus / the Kingdom?4. What can I pray for based on this section? (Write out prayer)5. What can I give thanks to God for based on what I've read?	
--	--