

3. Piety: The Secret Life of Discipleship (6:1-34)

Sermon on the Mount

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

2. 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.				

Discuss: 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?

3. Why do you think Jesus uses “Our Father” and “Our daily bread” and “Our trespasses” instead of “My Father...” etc.? Does it surprise you to find Jesus praying for any of these things?

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

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

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

6:19-24

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

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

9. 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?

10. What does it look like for Jesus to be our master in regard to our possessions, time, energy, goals?

6:25-34

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

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

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

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