

Hypocrisy
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Review:

1. Combining public piety with private sin compromises the gospel and drives people away from Christ
2. Doing good things like prayer, fasting and helping the poor for selfish reasons compromises our relationship with God
3. When we fast, pray, and help the poor, we must do so for the glory of God and for the good of others.

Go Further: Read Psalm 63

1. Why is it important that David says God is his God? What does that say about their relationship?
2. When does David say he will seek God? What does this tell us about David's priorities?
3. David wrote this psalm while he was in the Judean desert. For what is he most thirsty?
4. According to verse 2, what does David long to see in the Sanctuary?
5. According to verse 3, what does David say is better than life?
6. Why does David say he will praise God and bless His name?
7. Ancient people considered the fat to be the most excellent part of an animal, and it was always to be offered up to God when a sacrifice was made (Leviticus 3:3-4, 9-10, 14-16). What does David say is just as satisfying to him as eating such a delicious meal?
8. In verse 6, when does David say that he thinks about God? What does this say about his priorities?
9. What reason does David give for his rejoicing in verse 7?
10. How close does David claim to be with God in verse 8? What does he claim that God does for him?
11. In verses 9-10, what three things does David believe will happen to his enemies? Given what David says in verse 8, to Whom do you think David will give the credit for his deliverance?
12. At the time David wrote this psalm, he was not yet king. In the first line of verse 11, how does David expect to respond to God's blessings on him in the future?
13. What does David say will be true of everyone who swears by God, and thus is loyal to God?
14. In verse 11, how does David describe those who are opposed to God? What does he say will happen to them?

Apply:

1. Do you think that David's time in the desert, a place with no food or water, made him more hungry and thirsty for God? How have your own times of hunger and thirst increased your own desire for God?
2. How would you describe David's relationship with God? Having read this psalm, how would you like your relationship with God to change?
3. How has fasting, praying, or helping others for the right reasons brought you closer to God?
4. At the end of the psalm, David condemns those who speak lies. How is this similar to the deceitful actions Jesus condemns in our passage from Matthew? Why do you think God opposes lying of any kind?