

## Adult Impact Study Sheet

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March 12, 2023

If possible, read **Matthew 6: 5-15** from several translations.

For additional insight go to [www.studylight.org](http://www.studylight.org) and [www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org).

1. In Matthew 6:4 we see that the hypocrites were not really giving “to the Lord” from their hearts, rather only to be seen by men. In 6:5 are the hypocrites really praying in the synagogues and on the street corners? Explain your answer.

Discuss “praying in public in a manner which suggests a desire to have an effect upon the people present rather than to approach God with reverence and godly fear.”<sup>1</sup>

Have you ever been in situations where you were more concerned with what those who hear you pray would think of your prayer than really praying from your heart to the Lord? Does that keep you from praying aloud in a group setting? Should it?

2. The hypocrites piously observed exact daily prayer times. Do you find anywhere in Scripture that we have exact times of prayer set out for us? When should we pray?

Discuss quantity of prayer and quality of prayer.

3. In no way did Jesus disallow public prayer, but He did lay emphasis on private prayer. What advantage does private prayer have over public prayer?
4. Lloyd-Jones maintains that whether praying in public or in secret we should “shut out and forget other people...and yourself.”<sup>2</sup> What do you think he means by that?
5. When we pray we must remind ourselves that our omniscient God knows all about us. How should that affect our praying? (*Also, keep in mind Ephesians 3:20!*)
6. When “Jesus said, ‘Pray like this,’ His pattern was:
  - Praise
  - Intercede for His work in the world
  - Ask for provision of individual daily needs
  - Request help in daily struggles<sup>3</sup>”

Discuss each of these in relationship to our Abba Father.

<sup>1</sup> D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Studies in the Sermon on the Mount*, 305

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, 307

<sup>3</sup> Life Application New Testament Commentary, 31

*Next week: Matthew 6:16-18*