

When You **DO GOOD**,  
You **PLEASE GOD**



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# WHEN YOU DO GOOD, YOU PLEASE GOD

## When you do what you do, please God

**Jesus gives a clear message regarding righteousness.  
Righteousness simply means, “Doing the right thing.”**

**Matt 6:1-18**

6:1 (Please God) - "Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

2 Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

3 But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

5 (The Model Prayer) - (Luke 11:2-4); "And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the

corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

7 And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

8 "Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. 9 In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.

13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

14 "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

16 (Fasting to Be Seen Only by God) - "Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

17 But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,

18 so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

NKJV

## 2 Cor. 5:9-10

Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

Ones' attitude is important when you do what you do. You can do the right thing with a bad attitude and not be accepted by God.

### ❖ When you GIVE, please God

- We give to please God
- We should not give to gain human recognition
  - a. Not for ourselves
  - b. Nor from others
- We should not give to be rewarded by men.
- We should give as an attitude of worship
- We should view giving as a form of serving God.
- We should not give expecting that it will merit a blessing from God
- We should not give desiring something from God.
- We should give because we love God
- We should give because we are thankful for God's blessing
- We should not give to draw attention to ourselves (blowing a trumpet)
- We should not give as a means to publicize your righteousness (this is hypocrisy)
- We should give:
  - ✚ Secretly
  - ✚ Spontaneously
  - ✚ Sacrificially
  - ✚ Systematically

**FIRST GIVE YOURSELF TO GOD, THEN, GIVING YOUR POSSESSIONS WILL BE EASY AND JOYFUL.**

### Matt 6:3-4

“Let not thy left hand know ...” This is a proverbial expression, signifying that the action should be done as secretly as possible. The Hebrews often attribute actions to members which properly belong to persons. The encouragement for performing our acts of charity in secret is that it will be pleasing to God; that he will see the act, however secret it may be, and

**will openly reward it. If the reward is not granted in this life, it will be in the life to come. In multitudes of cases, however, alms given to the poor are "lent to the Lord" (Prov. 19:17), and will be repaid in this life. Rarely, perhaps never, has it been found that the man who is liberal to the poor has ever suffered by it in his worldly circumstances.**

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**When you PRAY, please God.**

- **We should pray to the Lord**
- **We should not pray to be heard of men**
- **We should not pray for men's recognition**
- **We should not forsake PUBLIC prayer**
- **We should not forsake PRIVATE devotional prayer**
- **We should practice praying continuously**

**The Liberty commentary gives this insert on Prayer from Matt. 6:7.**

“Jesus condemns the use of empty repetition as an attempt to overcome the will of God by wearing Him out. It is not the length of prayer, but the strength of prayer that prevails with God. Jesus Himself prayed all night prior to His crucifixion and on most other occasions prayed very briefly. He is not condemning lengthy prayers, although there is nothing particularly spiritual about them. He is merely emphasizing that prayer must be a sincere expression of the heart, not mere accumulation of verbiage. God is not impressed with words, but with the genuine outcry of a needy heart. “

**JESUS TAUGHT HIS DISCIPLES TO PRAYER IN MATT. 6:9. Again, from the Liberty Commentary,**

“The following sample prayer is given to the disciples as an example of a suitable prayer. It is neither lengthy nor irreverent. It contains a depth of piety and a pinnacle of power. This prayer, often called the “Lord's Prayer,” is in reality a disciple's prayer, for Jesus gave it to His disciples as a sample of the true principle of spiritual prayer. In no way does the prayer itself embody all of His teaching about prayer

and certainly, having just warned against vain repetition, He did not intend for this particular prayer to be merely recited with empty meaninglessness. This does not mean, however, that this prayer man not be recited as an act of public worship. There are those who fell that the omission of ever repeating this prayer is a failure to grasp its true significance. Certainly if we are to follow its example properly we may benefit from repeating it as it was given by the Lord Himself. To place this prayer under law and eliminate it from Christian usage is to deny the great essence of what the prayer is all about.”

### **WHY SHOULD WE PRAY**

- ✚ Prayer will make a man cease from sin, or sin will entice a man to cease from prayer.**
- ✚ No day is well spent without communication with God.**
- ✚ The best way to remember people is in prayer.**
- ✚ More things are wrought by prayer than the world dreams of.**
- ✚ Nothing lies beyond the reach of prayer except that which lies beyond the will of God.**
- ✚ Arguments never settle things, but prayer changes things and people. If trouble drives you to prayer, prayer will drive the trouble away.**
- ✚ If you are a stranger to prayer, you are a stranger to power.**
- ✚ Without prayer no work is well done**
- ✚ Daily prayers lessen daily cares**
- ✚ He stands best who kneels most.**
- ✚ Change matters of care to matters of prayer.**
- ✚ Prayerless pews make powerless people.**
- ✚ Do not face the day until you have faced God**
- ✚ A praying man can never be a useless man**
- ✚ When you depend on man, we get what man can do; when we depend on prayer, we get what God can do**

❖ When you FAST, please God

The purpose of fasting is intended for deep spiritual concentration, consecration and contrition (repentance).

Isa. 53:6, "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? NIV

Fasting is done by denying the body natural desires such as food and every that distracts the heart, mind, soul and spirit. Fasting should be done with:

- Purpose—dealing with temptation
- Prayer
- Practice

Isa 58:3-6

3 'Why have we fasted,' they say,' and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you have not noticed?'

"Yet on the day of your fasting, you do as you please and exploit all your workers. 4 Your fasting ends in quarreling and strife, and in striking each other with wicked fists. You cannot fast as you do today and expect your voice to be heard on high. 5 Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, only a day for a man to humble himself? Is it only for bowing one's head like a reed and for lying on sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

6 "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? NIV

Matt 6:17-18

"The meaning of this whole commandment is, when you regard it to be your duty to fast, do it as a thing expressing deep feeling or sorrow for sin, not by assuming unfelt gravity and moroseness, but in your ordinary

**dress and appearance; not to attract attention, but as an expression of feeling toward God, and he will approve and reward it.”**

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**WHEN YOU DO WHAT YOU DO, DO IT TO PLEASE THE LORD**