



1. How did Jesus' command to "love your enemies" shape your treatment of others this week? Which truth, verse or insight from Lesson 13 was most helpful to you as you tried to live out this high calling?
2. Jesus now turns to a greater righteousness that will be rewarded by God (**Matthew 6:4, 6,18**). Pray that Jesus would open your eyes to see where you need to apply His teaching about generosity to your own life as you read **Matthew 6:1-4**.
 - a) What were you taught about generosity and charity growing up? Who in your life is an example of quiet, selfless giving?
 - b) God's concern for the poor and needy is evident throughout Scripture. Generosity was not treated as optional kindness, but as faithfulness to God. Read **Deuteronomy 15:7-11** and outline God's commands for providing for the needy. What importance does God place on the posture of the giver's heart?
3. In **Matthew 6:1**, what is the guiding principle Jesus gives about practicing righteousness? Describe the benefits someone might hope to gain by acting righteously in the presence of others.

4. a) From **V2**, define hypocrite and discuss why announcing your giving is hypocritical. What are some modern ways people announce their giving “with trumpets”?
- b) How do the world's values around charity differ from Jesus' values and how do they differ from yours?
5. Read the following Scripture highlighting God's view of generosity and make note of what you learn from each verse:
- **Psalms 37:21**
 - **Psalms 112:5**
 - **Ecclesiastes 5:10-11**
6. What instructions does Jesus give us in **Matthew 6:3-4a**? Why do you think it is pleasing to God to give in this manner?
7. How does Jesus conclude His teaching on giving in **V4b**? What more can we learn about the rewards of the Father from the following Scripture?
- **Proverbs 19:17**
 - **Luke 12:32-34**
 - **Colossians 3:23-24**

8. Reflecting on all you've learned about giving in **Matthew 6:1-4**, and the other passages, what most convicts or encourages you about God's views on giving and acts of charity? How could you better align your giving with God's values?

9. **JESUS SAID: GIVE SECRETLY**

Jesus commands kingdom dwellers to be generous, not as a means of earning our way into heaven or impressing others. Generosity reflects our right relationship with God. Jesus places emphasis on the intention of the giver's heart. Jesus asks us to deny the honor of others and give in secret. He promises far greater rewards await the generous in His Kingdom. "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." **Colossians 3:23-24**

- a) In what ways is giving in secret a reflection of faith and trust in God? How does knowing Jesus has generously laid down His own life to pay the debt of your sin impact your view of giving?
- b) The Bible is full of demonstrations of radical generosity by God and His people. Share one of your favorites with your group as encouragement to live and give generously (e.g., **John 3:16, Mark 12:41-44, Luke 10:30-37**).

MEMORY VERSE: "Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven."
Matthew 6:1

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST