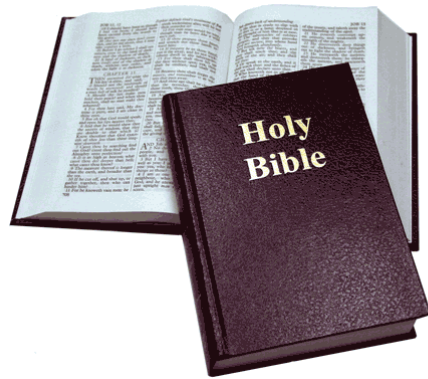


The Sermon on the Mount

STUDY 15

Reading: Matthew 6:5-8



Secret Service

Home Fellowship Group Bible Study Questions

Tuesday 10th/Wednesday 11th September 2013

This study gives the second of three passages that were introduced by verse 1 of the chapter.

- 1) In the study guide included with the last set of notes we were encouraged to ask whether there are any connecting words; and if so what they tell us. *What themes does the connecting word at the beginning of verse 5 suggest we should be looking out for in our new passage?*
- 2) What do verses 5 and 6 teach us about the nature of prayer?
- 3) What does Jesus mean in verse 6 when He refers to God the Father as being in secret and seeing in secret?
- 4) What does verse 7 teach us about how we should pray?
- 5) Verse 8 might lead us to query whether it is necessary to ask God for anything in prayer if He knows what we need anyway. *How do you square that circle in your own approach to prayer?*
- 6) With this passage in mind, how do we view the place of praying together and church prayer meetings? If we are to continue with them how do we avoid the pitfalls that Jesus identifies in these verses?