

Friday

So did any Pharisees ever change? Some did! Read the testimony of one of them, the Apostle Paul, in Philippians 3:4-9. Summarize Paul's point:

Ask God to help you experience the freedom from the righteousness sought through human effort, and relax in the righteousness Jesus gives!

Saturday

How is this week's memory verse the key to understanding everything Jesus says in the Sermon on the Mount? Ask yourself: "Am I letting my light shine through good deeds? Am I focused on Christ? Am I living out the Word of God? Am I going beyond rule-keeping?"

Ask for God's help in these areas. Ask God to prepare your heart for tomorrow so that you can worship him in Spirit and truth as you come together with your brothers and sisters. Pray that both of our Sunday services will clearly show God's grace and truth to all who attend.

The King's Speech

Message by Rick McRostie on Sunday, January 29, 2017

Living for Jesus

How Jesus wants me to live:

1. Let _____

"In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

Not _____ for _____ ;

but _____ for _____ !

2. Look _____

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them." Matthew 5:17

"Fulfill": _____

3. Live _____

"Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:19

4. Learn _____

"For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:20



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• **Go from** _____ **to** _____
“These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.” Matthew 15:8

• **Go from** _____ **to** _____
“Everything they do is done for men to see...” Matthew 23:5a

The bottom line:
Have simple, from-the-heart love
for _____ **and** _____.

Daily Meditations

Take some time each day to read the suggested passage, pray, and answer the questions pertaining to this week’s topic.

This week’s memory verse:

“For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:20

Monday

As you look back over the notes from the message, how can each of the points help keep your faith from getting complicated? Which of the points is the most natural for you? Which of these do you need the most help with?

Thank God that he wants a simple relationship with us, instead of demanding all those man-made religious rules! Ask him to help you have such a deepening relationship!

Tuesday

Please read Matthew 5:13-16. Consider salt and light: How do they function? How do they become useless? What prevails in their absence? Is your life shining and salty or covered and saltless? *Ask God to help you do your “good deeds” so that others will be attracted to him and his kingdom.*

Wednesday

Five times in Matthew chapter 5, Jesus compares the technical, legalistic rules of the Pharisees with the real, deep, heart obedience God longs for. Please read the following verses and summarize his teaching:

1. Matthew 5:21-22
2. Matthew 5:27-28
3. Matthew 5:33-34
4. Matthew 5:38-39
5. Matthew 5:43-44

What would you say is the theme of Jesus’ teaching here? Why do you think some people actually prefer a system of rules to a relationship with God?
Ask God to help you be truly pure from the inside out—that’s a miracle that comes only by God’s grace!

Thursday

Matthew records two long sermons by Jesus: one at the start of his ministry, the Sermon on the Mount, in chapters 5-7, and one at the end of his ministry, in chapters 23-25. These two sermons are really like bookends, because the themes are so consistent. Please read Matthew 23:1-28. How is this similar to the Sermon on the Mount? Are there any warnings in these verses that hit a chord for you? Which ones?

Ask God to help you always stay away from performance and to be an authentic follower of Christ! Ask him to let our church family display this kind of authenticity!