

## Welcome and Announcements

Elders meeting after church??

--Camp Day in a few weeks (August 7). We'll wear our play clothes and we'll worship God through laughter and song. We'll see the first skit of the new group, Healthy Drama. After worship, we'll have our church picnic downstairs...maybe outside. We'll have games and fellowship time. It'll be fun!

GREETING one another in the name of Jesus Christ

Opening Hymn-- Fairest Lord Jesus #97

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

--Darrell Bragg—fell and broke his neck and his nose. I saw him a few days ago. He's doing better than you'd think! Neck brace for a few months. He's in good spirits.

--Our nation

--Our Congregation

Call to Prayer—Lord, Listen to your Children Praying #305

Prayer w/ Lord's Prayer

## SCRIPTURE AND MESSAGE

Jesus Preaching!

In college, freshmen usually take classes known as "Survey courses." In those classes you spend the semester looking over

a broad area of time...or subject matter. For example...if it's a history class dealing with... say the 1960s ...a survey course will have you look at everything from politics... to music...to the war...to fashion of that decade. Later courses will delve more precisely...and deeply...into a particular area. The survey course...is sort of an ...overview of the topic.

Well...the Gospel of Matthew presents Jesus' Sermon on the Mount ...as sort of Jesus' "survey course" of human life. ...how we should treat each other...how we...should live as people of faith in God. The particular moments in Jesus' own life ...His later parables...and teachings...even His Crucifixion... serve as the more in-depth study of what a faithful human life looks like. But...at the beginning of Jesus' ministry...Jesus provides...an overview.

For a few weeks...we're letting Jesus teach us...as He taught the people long ago...through His Sermon on the Mount. Last week, we heard the beginning of that Sermon as it appears in the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew.

That part of Jesus' sermon taught about how we treat each other. Some of it...was hard for us to hear. Jesus telling us to pray for our enemies... and those who hurt us. Jesus telling us that ...lusting after a married person is the same as committing adultery. ...and anger toward another human...is no different than murder. The difficulties...of divorce among God's people. Jesus' words in Chapter 5... catch us...and convict us! ...ALL of us!

This week...we turn to the portion of Jesus' Sermon from the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew. Jesus' words here tell us that we should focus our actions ...on pleasing God...rather than ourselves...or each other. Our actions need to be more focused on glorifying God... than ourselves. In other words...Jesus reminds us in this chapter...that God...not us...is *and should always be*...the center of our lives. ...**SCRIPTURE PRAYER**

## **Matthew 6**

“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they

have received their reward. <sup>6</sup> But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>7</sup> “When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

<sup>9</sup> “Pray, then, in this way:

Our Father in heaven,

may your name be revered as holy.

<sup>10</sup> May your kingdom come.

May your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread.

<sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

<sup>13</sup> And do not bring us to the time of trial,  
but rescue us from the evil one.

<sup>14</sup> “For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, <sup>15</sup> but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

<sup>16</sup> “And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup> But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup> so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>19</sup> “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>22</sup> “The eye is the lamp of the body. So if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, <sup>23</sup> but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If, then, the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

<sup>24</sup> “No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

<sup>25</sup> “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

<sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

<sup>27</sup> And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>28</sup> And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup> yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. <sup>30</sup> But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?

<sup>31</sup> Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ <sup>32</sup> For it is the

gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup> But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

<sup>34</sup> “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

INVITATION—This portion of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount puts us in our place. It reminds us that God is God...not us. That God is worthy of Glory...not us. And yet...Jesus’ words here also remind us that as glorious and powerful as God is...God is still personal with each of us...loving each one of us...watching out for each one of us.

Regardless of what we wear...or do...God watches over us...and helps us. We don’t have to DO anything. This is why having a relationship with God...through Christ...is so wonderful for anyone willing to claim that relationship. Are you willing ...today...to commit yourself to God...through Jesus Christ?

Hymn- Come and Find the Quiet Center #575

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

SPECIAL MUSIC—REX BAILEY

COMMUNION—One of the reasons I love being part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is having a Communion experience...every week. This is where I....we....have the opportunity to set aside the world. We set aside our worries about the various difficulties of human life. We even set aside the glitzy human things that can distract us. The simplicity of this Table...the Wonder of the Love and Grace we experience here... helps us to allow...God be God in our worship. As we partake...in this quiet, intimate setting...we are each alone...with our Bread and Cup...and our Lord. It is ...a truly sacred moment.

Hymn--Break Thou the Bread of Life #321 v. 1 & 2

Elder's Prayer for Bread and Cup

Words of Institution

Partake

Closing Hymn--Go in Peace #445

BENEDICTION