

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

ELEVATE YOUR PRACTICES

Growing a Heart for God

Matthew 6:1-18

Everybody has a heart, yet some people have God's heart

1. You access and acquire God's heart when you give. (v1-4)
2. You access and acquire God's heart when you pray. (v5-15)
3. You access and acquire God's heart when you fast. (v16-18)

Fasting: Saying "No" to food for a time in order to say "Yes" to humbling ourselves before God, directing our full attention to God, and declaring our dependence on God

Download 'Growing a Heart for God' by
Jim Botts (10/22/23) free, or share it via email, Facebook, or
Twitter at hcbc.com/media.

MY APPLICATION

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

1. Our culture says “Follow your heart.” Discuss a time when you did that and it went poorly. How does Jeremiah 17:9 explain what went awry?
2. Handling money is an opportunity to connect with God. Tell of a time when you experienced God by giving money. What would you say to those who haven’t?
3. Prayer re-orientes our hearts around God. Read Matthew 6:9-13. What three things about God should frame how we begin in every prayer?
4. Fasting clears a space for God to do something big IN you. Discuss your experience (if any) with fasting. How open are you to developing this practice?
5. Our ultimate reward is experiencing God’s heart. What one thing do you think God wants you to do as a result of this time in His Word? Who do you need to tell about that?



Memory Verse

“But when 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.”.

Matthew 6:6 ESV