

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

Good Deeds & Prayer **Matthew 6:1-8**

Andrew Carnegie & John D. Rockefeller

Good deeds & Prayer –

- **Not to be seen, but to help**
- **As with sin – 5:20-30...**
- **Not how, but why**
- **Not a special act, but normal life**

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6:1 & 5:16

Colossians 1:10, “That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully **pleasing to Him**, bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God.”

Titus 2:7 & 3:8, “Make yourself an example of good works with integrity and dignity in your teaching... This saying is trustworthy. I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed God might be careful to devote themselves to good works. These are good and profitable for everyone.”

Hebrews 10:24, “Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.”

James 2:17-18, “In the same way faith, if it doesn’t have works, is dead by itself. But someone will say, ‘You have faith, and I have works.’ Show me your faith without works, and I will show you faith from my works.”

1 Peter 2:12, “Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing

wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day He visits us.”

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Matthew 25:35-36 & 40, “For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me... Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.”

Matthew 5:44-45, “But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.”

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6:2 – “When” you do good works (not if)

- People who draw attention to themselves already have their reward
- **“Return To Me” – the Anonymous donor**

Ronald Reagan, “It’s remarkable how much good you can do if you don’t care who gets the credit”

6:3-4 – “When” you do good works

- We don’t want to draw attention to the person(s) in need either.

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6:5 – “When” you pray (not if)

- As with good works... done to be seen **IS** the reward

6:6 – “**When**” you pray

- Pray for **God to hear** you (if others hear you or not)

John 17:1-26 – They heard Jesus pray to The Father

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Acts 1:14 & 2:42, “They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers... They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

Acts 4:23-31 & 12:1-16

James 5:14, “Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.”

Prayer – even among others **is personal**

- Both **from us, and to God**
- Would we expect anyone we’re not personal with to hear & respond?

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6:7-8 – “**When**” you pray

God is not impressed with many words

- He knows **why we’re there**
- **He is impacted by** the content & purpose

Hebrews 11:6, “And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for anyone who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

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Do good & Pray earnestly...

- Both for the same reason