

Weekly Questions - Week 1 - Matthew 6:1-4

Every week, the Life Group discussion questions will incorporate each of the following three kinds of questions. However, it is NOT necessary to ask them all or in order. Structure your questions in a manner that best meets the DNA of your group.

Getting To Know Me: These are history giving questions designed to surface answers that are self-revealing without being threatening. They should be safe, but informative.

1. In Matthew 6:1, Jesus warns against practicing righteousness to be seen by others. Can you share a time when you chose to do something good in secret, without seeking recognition?
2. Verses 3-4 talk about giving in a way that is hidden and known only by God. How do you personally approach generosity, and what motivates you to give to others?

Into the Bible: These are questions that draw group members into the Bible to discover truth from passages that were not the primary text for the weekend message and therefore not explicitly covered in the sermon. They may be explanatory or in some way shed further light on the main topic or principles of the weekend message. They create a sense of digging deeper and should offer a sense of "something more."

Divine – Recognizing God's Standard

1. How does Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6:1-4 challenge our natural desire for recognition when doing good?
 - Supporting Verse: *Colossians 3:23-24*
2. If God sees what we do in secret, how should that change our approach to generosity and righteous acts?
 - Supporting Verse: *Proverbs 19:17*

Distinct – Living Differently from the World

3. Why do you think Jesus calls us to give in secret instead of seeking public praise? How does this set believers apart from the world?
 - Supporting Verse: *Romans 12:2*
4. What does it mean to trust in God's unseen reward rather than the applause of people?
 - Supporting Verse: *Hebrews 11:6*

Disciple-Making – Calling Others to Follow Jesus

5. How can you encourage your **One Life** to practice humility in their giving while still inspiring generosity?
 - Supporting Verse: *2 Corinthians 9:7*
6. Jesus teaches that God rewards those who give in secret. How does this truth help us share the gospel through our actions rather than just our words?
 - Supporting Verse: *Matthew 5:16*

Application: These questions relate to and are based directly upon the application points of the weekend message. They ask group members to examine their life in light of the primary truth(s) taught or explored in the message. They can focus on one, some or all of the main points and can come in a variety of formats.

1. How can you ensure that your acts of generosity are motivated by a desire to please God rather than to gain recognition from others?
2. What practical steps can you take this week to give to your *One Life* in secret, as Jesus teaches, trusting that God will reward you?