

JONES ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

# The Sermon on the Mount

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Matthew 5-7

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This quarter's study will focus on Matthew 5-7. While "Invitation to a Spiritual Revolution" by Paul Earnhart will be used as a companion guide to stimulate our thinking, our focus will be on the Bible text.

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## Memory Passages

### January

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

“For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:16, 20

### February

“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day *is* its own trouble.” Matthew 6:33, 34

### March

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’” Matthew 7:21-23

## Lesson 1 / Matthew 5:1-4; *Invitation*, pp. 9-17

1. In this study of the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5-7), our focus will be on the Bible text, but the readings from *Invitation to a Spiritual Revolution* should aid both in understanding the Scriptures and challenging your thinking.
  - a. I will occasionally have a few questions taken from *Invitation*, but you will not need anything more than a Bible to answer most of the questions. However, I would strongly encourage everyone to take advantage of the opportunity to learn from Paul Earnhart and his studies of this great sermon.
  - b. However, I would say of both Paul Earnhart and John Gibson that you must measure everything by the revealed standard. Don't blindly accept anyone's teachings. 1 Thes. 5:19-22
2. The Sermon on the Mount has been described as the best \_\_\_\_\_, least \_\_\_\_\_, and least \_\_\_\_\_ of all the teachings of Jesus. p. 9
3. Read the entire sermon through at least once before class.
4. Jesus once said, "My kingdom is not of this \_\_\_\_\_. " John 18:36
5. The Lord promised that the kingdom would come with power before some hearing His words had done what? Mark 9:1
6. "There is \_\_\_\_\_ body and \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit, just as you were called in one \_\_\_\_\_ of your calling."
7. What does the word beatitude mean?
8. Note the summary of the beatitudes found on pp. 13, 14.
  - a. The kingdom is not for the self-righteous and self-assured
  - b. The kingdom is not for the "mighty."
9. G. K. Chesterton said, "Nothing succeeds quite like \_\_\_\_\_. "
10. What does the word blessed (Gr. *makarios*) mean as it is used in Matt. 5:3-11?
11. The Lord promises that the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ will be given to the poor in spirit.
12. How did Earnhart define the poverty of 5:3?
13. How did the prodigal son describe himself when he returned to his father in Luke 15?
14. The tax collector in Luke 18:9-14 pleaded for \_\_\_\_\_ because he was a \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Does Matt. 5:4 pronounce every type of mourning we experience as leading to blessedness?

16. Who received the protective mark in Ezek. 9:3-6?
17. Godly sorrow is said to lead to \_\_\_\_\_, while the sorrow of the world leads to \_\_\_\_\_.

## Lesson 2 / Matthew 5:5-12; *Invitation*, pp. 18-26

1. Jesus wants us to hunger and thirst for \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What moved the prodigal to return home? Luke 15:14-17
3. Righteousness refers to...
  - a. Being in a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Doing the \_\_\_\_\_ things because of our relationship with God.
4. Earnhart describes Matt. 5:6 as a call for a change of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. James 4:8 calls on the \_\_\_\_\_ to purify their hearts.
6. The Phillips translation renders Matt. 5:8 as, “Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_.
7. What did first-century philosopher Seneca have to say about pity?
8. Define the word meek.
9. Barclay said the Greek word translated meek was applied to an animal that had been \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Explain the difference between weakness and meekness.
11. Jesus promises the merciful that they shall obtain \_\_\_\_\_.
12. How often should we be willing to forgive? Matt. 18:21, 22
13. How can we learn to be more merciful and forgiving?
14. To be a peacemaker, we must first possess the peace of God and that can only come through the \_\_\_\_\_ of peace. Rom. 10:15; Eph. 6:15
15. Why does the world persecute people who are humble, meek, merciful, etc.?
16. What value is assigned to trials in James 1:2-4?

## Lesson 3 / Matthew 5:13-20; *Invitation*, pp. 27-41

1. The disciples of Jesus, though persecuted by the world, are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world.
2. What was salt used for in the first century?
3. A lamp is not to be placed under a \_\_\_\_\_, but on a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The hope is that men will see our good works and \_\_\_\_\_ the Father.
5. What does Jesus mean by the salt losing its flavor?
6. Take note of the last paragraph on p. 30. By the time Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount the Pharisees considered Him an enemy of the Law.
7. Rather than destroy the Law, Jesus came to \_\_\_\_\_.
8. What Old Testament prophet had spoken of the Lord making a new covenant?
9. Gal. 3:24, 25 describes the Law of Moses as a \_\_\_\_\_, intended to bring men to Christ.
10. What is meant by jot and tittle in 5:18?
11. Who will be “least” in the kingdom? Who will be called “great” in the kingdom of heaven?
12. What is a libertine?
13. Where do we find the New Testament referred to as the perfect law of liberty?
14. How can the man who breaks only one command be called guilty of all in James 2:8-10?
15. Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness must exceed the righteousness of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
16. Identify some of the errors of the Pharisees using the following Scriptures.
  - a. Matt. 15:3-9
  - b. Matt. 23:1-5
  - c. Matt. 23:16-28
  - d. Luke 16:14
  - e. Luke 18:9-14

## Lesson 4 / Matthew 5:21-26; *Invitation*, pp. 42-47

1. Study carefully “The True Righteousness” on pp. 39-41. Earnhart argues that 5:21-48 is an attack on the “sham righteousness of the Pharisees,” while others see these verses as a contrast between the Old and New Covenants.
  - a. What do you think? How should we understand this section of the Sermon on the Mount? Be able to defend your answer.
2. What was the tenth of the Ten Commandments?
3. How were the Law of Moses and its commandments described in Rom. 7:12, 14?
4. What will be the fate of those who are angry at and say mean things about their brother?
5. “Whoever hates his brother is a \_\_\_\_\_.” 1 John \_\_\_\_:15
6. What did Jesus refer to as the second greatest command of the Law?
7. Before offering a gift at the altar, Jesus instructed His disciples to be \_\_\_\_\_ to their brother.
8. Amos called on the people of Samaria to stop their sacrifices and let \_\_\_\_\_ run down like water, and \_\_\_\_\_ like a mighty stream.
9. List the two reasons given on p. 46 for people failing to repent of the sins they have committed against others and then seek their forgiveness.
10. Why was it essential that they agree with their adversary quickly?

## Lesson 5 / Matthew 5:27-30; *Invitation*, pp. 48-53

1. What was the penalty for adultery under the Law of Moses?
2. Jesus said that one who looks at a woman to \_\_\_\_\_ for her has already committed \_\_\_\_\_ with her in his heart.
3. Define the word lust.
4. The Ten Commandments had ordered Israel not to \_\_\_\_\_ a neighbor's wife.
5. As is properly noted in *Invitation*, the word adultery points us specifically to a violation of the marriage covenant, but the same principle applies to the unmarried.
  - a. In Gal. 5:19 uncleanness and lewdness are associated with sexual immorality.
  - b. For the body to be given as an acceptable sacrifice, the mind must be renewed.

Romans \_\_\_\_:1, 2
6. What warning do we find in 1 Cor. 10:12?
7. According to Matt. 15:19, where does evil originate?
  - a. Think: people often excuse their lust and/or sexual immorality by blaming it on hormones and "natural desires." Natural sexual desire does exist, but if we keep our heart with all diligence we can keep our bodies pure. Prov. 4:\_\_\_\_\_
8. If the eye was the cause of sin, what was a man to do?
9. Was Jesus telling His disciples to literally mutilate their bodies? If not, what was He saying?
10. List three things we should avoid if we want to keep our hearts pure and avoid sexual sin in both the heart and with the body.
11. List at least two ways one person can be guilty of causing another to lust.
12. Where do we read that we are to put to death our earthly uncleanness, passion, and evil desire?

## Lesson 6 / Matthew 5:31, 32; *Invitation*, pp. 54-56

1. In addition to Matt. 5:31, 32, please read Matt. 19:1-10; Mark 10:1-12; Luke 16:18; Rom. 7:1-4; 1 Cor. 7:10-16.
  
2. According to Matt. 5:32, to divorce one's mate without cause is a loveless act because...
  - a. The former spouse will [likely] be caused to \_\_\_\_\_.
  
  - b. The one who marries the former spouse will also be caused to \_\_\_\_\_.
  
3. What is the one reason or exception for which Jesus allows a divorce to take place?
  
4. Read Deut. 24 and the comments of Earnhart on pp. 54, 55. How did the legislation of Deut. 24 serve to reduce the number of divorces?
  
5. What Old Testament prophet tells us that God hates divorce?
  
6. "What God has joined together, let not \_\_\_\_\_." \_\_\_\_\_
  
7. Why did God permit divorce if He hated it?
  
8. Take note that while Matt. 19:9 emphasizes the adultery that results from remarriage, Matt. 5:32 and 19:6 emphasize the sinfulness of the divorce itself.
  
9. According to Rom. 7, a woman is only released from the law of her husband when what happens?

## Lessons 7, 8 / Matthew 5:33-48; *Invitation*, pp. 57-77

1. Though we will be using two class periods to cover Matt. 5:33-48, please try to complete the entire lesson before the first class.
  - a. If you would like, you can skip pp. 72-74 and question #16 for the first class period, but be sure you give this one some serious thought before the second session.
2. In conjunction with Matt. 5:33-37, read Matt. 23:16-22 to better understand the “righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees” in regard to swearing.
  - a. What oaths did they consider binding and which ones did they consider “nothing?”
3. Why were the disciples not to swear by heaven, earth, Jerusalem, or even their own lives?
4. List at least three reasons people tell lies.
5. Study carefully the comments by Earnhart on pp. 58, 59, read the passages cited, and be prepared to explain why we can or cannot take certain oaths, such as swearing to tell the truth in court.
6. Study carefully Ex. 21:22-25 and Deut. 19:15-21.
  - a. “Eye for eye, tooth for tooth” meant that the punishment fit the crime.
  - b. Did Ex. 21 or Deut. 19 command the Israelite to take his own personal revenge or were these instructions given to govern the judges and courts of Israel?
7. Is offering resistance to evil people completely forbidden to the Christian?
8. Rom. 12:17-21 teaches us not to repay evil with \_\_\_\_\_\_. Instead, what are we to do for our enemy?
9. Are we ever allowed to refuse to give to the one who asks us to give to him?
10. See Luke 6:29-32 where the “golden rule” is cited in conjunction with these teachings.

11. Did the Law of Moses teach Israel to love their neighbors? Did it teach them to hate their enemies?
  
12. To be true sons of our Father, we must \_\_\_\_\_ our enemies, \_\_\_\_\_ those who curse us, do \_\_\_\_\_ to those who hate us, and \_\_\_\_\_ for those who spitefully use us and persecute us.
  
13. What does God do for both the just and the unjust?
  
14. To only love those who love us is to live on the level of the \_\_\_\_\_.
  
15. Read the description of love found on pp. 69-71. William Barclay says, “Agape [love] does not mean a \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_,...; it means a \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_....”
  
16. Read pp. 72-74 and be prepared to discuss the question of Christians fighting in the military battles of their country.
  - a. Please don’t think exclusively of this as an “American question.” Christians across the globe must grapple with this question.

## Lesson 9 / Matthew 6:1-4; *Invitation*, pp. 78-83

1. Though this lesson will focus only on the first four verses, please read Matt. 6:1-18.
2. The disciples of Jesus are to seek God's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ first. 6:33
3. In 6:1-18 we are warned that self is the enemy we must overcome if we are to be obedient to the instructions of 6:33.
  - a. Define pride.
  - b. Define humility.
4. While the NKJV has "charitable deeds" in 6:1, the NASB and ESV have "righteousness." Verse 1 should probably be seen as the general principle that is developed with three specifics; viz. charity, prayer, and fasting.
5. How can we be the light of the world (5:16) and at the same time not practice our righteousness so as to be seen of men?
  
6. God resists the \_\_\_\_\_, but gives grace to the \_\_\_\_\_. 1 Peter 5:5, 6
7. According to Prov. 13:10, what does pride produce?
8. Find three OT passages and three NT passages that urge God's people to care for the poor and needy.
9. Charitable deeds were important, but Jesus warned against sounding a \_\_\_\_\_ so that we might have \_\_\_\_\_ from men.
10. What reward did the "trumpet-blowing" hypocrites have?
11. What is meant by not letting your left hand know what your right hand is doing?

## Lesson 10 / Matthew 6:5-8; *Invitation*, pp. 84-89

1. Though the lesson will focus on Matt. 6:5-8, please read Matt. 6:1-18 to get a fuller picture of what Jesus is dealing with in this section of the sermon.
2. Define prayer.
3. Why did the hypocrites (i.e. the scribes and Pharisees) prefer to pray in the synagogues and on the street corners?
4. Jesus told His disciples to do their praying in their \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Where did Daniel customarily pray? Dan. 6
6. Did Jesus ever leave the room (closet, inner chamber) and pray where He could be seen and heard?
7. Did 1<sup>st</sup> century Christians offer public prayers in their assemblies?
8. Paul urged men to pray \_\_\_\_\_. 1 Tim. 2:8
9. In your own words, what lesson is Jesus seeking to convey in Matt. 6:5, 6?
10. Matt. 6:5 condemns the prayers of the \_\_\_\_\_, while 6:7 shifts to the prayers of the \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Define vain. Is there a difference between mere repetition and vain repetition?
12. Why did the Gentiles feel the need for long prayers with repeated words?
13. Can the words “in Jesus’ name” at the end of our prayers become a meaningless phrase attached to the end of our prayers?

## Lesson 11 / Matthew 6:8-10; *Invitation*, pp. 90-95

1. Read carefully the entire section on prayer (Matt. 6:5-15).
2. Review:
  - a. Why did some pray at street corners?
  - b. Why did the Gentiles feel compelled to use vain repetitions in their prayers?
3. According to Matt. 6:8, why are “many words” unnecessary?
4. What does Eph. 3:20 say that God is able to do for us?
5. Though God knows our needs, He expects us to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. Matt. 7:7, 8
6. We do not need eloquent words of persuasion when we approach God in prayer, but we must ask in \_\_\_\_\_, with no \_\_\_\_\_. James 1:5-8
7. Think. If God already knows our thoughts, why did David ask God to search his heart and see if there was any wickedness within him? Psa. 139:23, 24
8. What happens when we attempt to pray, but do not know how to pray as we should? Rom. 8:26-28
9. How many times do we read of the “Lord’s Prayer,” i.e. the words of Matt. 6:9-13, being recited by Christians?
10. The Gentiles thought it took many words to get the attention of their gods, but we can pray to a God who is our “\_\_\_\_\_ in heaven.”
11. Define hallowed.
12. How can the name of God be hallowed?
13. What is the root idea of kingdom in the New Testament?
14. Has the kingdom of God come into your life?

## Lesson 12 / Matthew 6:11-15; *Invitation*, pp. 96-101

1. Please take a moment to read carefully the entire section on prayer (Matt. 6:5-15).
2. Review:
  - a. What was wrong with the prayers of hypocrites (scribes and Pharisees)?
  - b. Jesus warned against imitating the heathen in the use of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. What does it mean to hallow the name of God?
3. What is more important than the “necessities” of life? Matt. 6:25-34
4. How much manna were the Israelites to gather each day? Ex. 16:4, 5, 16-24
5. Why did the Lord choose to feed Israel in this way? Deut. 8:1-3
6. Identify the following passages (NKJV):
  - a. “Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, *casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.*”
  - b. “*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;* and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”
7. Why are our sins (Luke 11:4) called debts in Matt. 6:12?
8. Does a person’s need for forgiveness end with baptism?
9. In what parable does Jesus tell us of a man who did not seek forgiveness, but instead recounted to God his own worthiness?
10. Though other Scriptures present a fuller picture of what is required in order to be forgiven, what is the one condition of forgiveness stipulated in Matthew 6?
11. Why did the master have his servant delivered to the torturers? Matt. 18:21-35
12. What promises in regard to temptation do we find in 1 Cor. 10:13?
13. In times of need (including temptations to sin) we should turn to the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, for there we will find the help we need. Heb. 4:14-16

## Lessons 13, 14 / Matthew 6:16-24; *Invitation*, pp. 102-113

1. Matthew 6:1-18 develops the theme introduced in 6:1—“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.” ESV
  - a. What two things were they to avoid when doing charitable deeds?
  - b. What two things were they to avoid when praying?
2. What does it mean to fast?
3. How many fasts were commanded in the Old Testament law?
4. How often did the Pharisees fast? Luke 18:9-14
5. List the things associated with fasting in Nehemiah 1:4; 9:1; Esther 4:1; Daniel 9:3.
  
6. What instruction did Jesus give about fasting in Matt. 6?
7. How did Jesus respond when asked why His disciples did not fast? Mark 2:18-20
8. Does the New Testament require Christians to fast?
9. When, if ever, is fasting appropriate for Christians?
  
10. What can we learn about fasting from Isaiah 58 and Zechariah 7?
  
11. Take note that Matt. 6:19 marks the beginning of a new section, a section that moves from condemnations of pride to concerns about material things.
12. Jesus urged that our treasures be in \_\_\_\_\_.
13. What makes heavenly treasure superior to treasure on earth?
14. Does Matt. 6:19-21 condemn having a savings account? If not, what is Jesus saying?
15. Matt. 6:21 tells us that Jesus wants our treasure to be in the right place, for our \_\_\_\_\_ will be with our treasure.
16. Those who desire to be rich fall into a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_.  
1 Timothy 6:9, 10
17. What does a “good” eye do for the body?
18. What did Jesus mean by the reference to the eye and the lamp of the body in Matt. 6:22, 23?

19. No one can serve \_\_\_\_\_ masters. How do you explain this in light of the fact that many people successfully work two jobs?
20. What is mammon?
21. One cannot love the \_\_\_\_\_ and still love the Father. 1 John 2:15-17
22. Col. 3:5 calls covetousness a type of \_\_\_\_\_.
23. To be a true disciple of Jesus, we must put Him before what things? Luke 14:26
23. In a short paragraph, summarize what the Christian's attitude should be toward money and material things.

## Lesson 15 / Matthew 6:25-31; *Invitation*, pp. 114-109

1. Though this lesson will zero in on Matt. 6:25-31, please read Matt. 6:19-34.
2. Understanding the emphasis of Matt. 6:19-34.
  - a. Jesus urges His disciples to focus on treasure in \_\_\_\_\_, so that the heart will be devoted to the proper pursuit.
  - b. No one can properly serve God while also trying to serve \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Concerns for the future must not interfere with our pursuit of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and His \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Note carefully that while Matt. 6:19-24 focuses on those who make the pursuit of wealth a priority (cf. 1 Tim. 6:9, 10), Matt. 6:25-34 shifts the focus to those who worry about having enough to live.
  - a. “Satan cares little as to whether we are consumed with greed or obsessed by worry as long as our minds are set on *things* rather than on God.” Paul Earnhart, *Invitation to a Spiritual Revolution*, p. 114
4. Jesus commanded His disciples not to worry about \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
5. How can we know that Jesus is not absolutely forbidding having concern or giving thought to how we will provide for the necessities of life?
6. While we face many uncertainties, life is more than \_\_\_\_\_ and the body more than \_\_\_\_\_.
7. What two illustrations from nature does Jesus use to show us how unnecessary worry is?
8. Worrying cannot add one \_\_\_\_\_ to a person’s \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Those who spend all their time worrying manifest little \_\_\_\_\_.
10. If God did not spare His own \_\_\_\_\_, but gave Him to die for us, how can we believe He will not give us everything we need? Rom. 8:31, 32

## Lesson 16 / Matthew 6:32-34; *Invitation*, pp. 120-125

1. In preparation for class read Matt. 6:19-34 and Luke 12:13-34.
2. Matt. 6:19-24 warns against the desire to be rich and the love of money by reminding us that...
  - a. Earthly treasures can be lost to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and thieves, but heavenly treasure is secure.
  - b. Where our treasure is, there our \_\_\_\_\_ will also be.
  - c. We cannot serve both God and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Matt. 6:25-34 exhorts us not to be consumed with worry about life's "necessities," for...
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ is about a lot more than food and clothing.
  - b. God feeds the \_\_\_\_\_ and splendidly clothes the \_\_\_\_\_, and we are of far greater value than either.
  - c. Worrying will not add one \_\_\_\_\_ to our \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Jesus describes those who worry about what they will eat, drink, and wear as being of little faith. List some things we can do to make our faith stronger.
  
5. Read Phil. 4:11-13. How was Paul able to be content during times when he suffered need?
6. What is meant by the kingdom of God in Matt. 6:33?
7. List some ways seeking God's kingdom first will impact...
  - a. The way we earn money.
  - b. The way we spend our money.
8. Define righteousness as it is used in Matt. 6:33.
9. What does Jesus promise those who have their priorities right and seek first the most important things?
10. What final reason for not worrying about the future do we find in Matt. 6:34?
  - a. Jesus taught His disciples to ask God for their \_\_\_\_\_ bread. Matt. 6:11

## Lesson 17 / Matthew 7:1-6; *Invitation*, pp. 126-131

1. Read Luke 6:27-42. The admonition to “judge not” is immediately preceded in Luke’s account with the instruction to be \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What does the word judge mean in Matt. 7:1?
3. What reason does Jesus give for not judging?
4. According to Matt. 7:2, what will be used to measure us in judgment?
5. Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_, for they shall obtain \_\_\_\_\_. Matt. 5:7
6. The heavenly Father will not forgive those who do not \_\_\_\_\_. Matt. 6:15
7. It is hypocritical to try to remove a \_\_\_\_\_ from someone’s eye if we have a \_\_\_\_\_ in our own eye.
8. Those overtaken in sin are to be dealt with in what spirit? Gal. 6:1-3
9. Titus 3:1-3 teaches us not to speak evil of others, but to be humble, peaceable, gentle, etc., and in doing so reminds us that we were once what kind of people?
10. How can Matt. 7:1-5 be reconciled with Biblical examples of and demands for rebuke of sinners?
11. Do not give that which is \_\_\_\_\_ to the dogs; nor cast your \_\_\_\_\_ before swine.
12. How can we know who the spiritual dogs and swine are? I.e., can we tell by the clothes they wear or any other part of their outward appearance? Can we tell by the sins they are currently practicing?
13. In your own words summarize the lesson of Matt. 7:6.

## Lesson 18 / Matthew 7:7-12; *Invitation*, pp. 132-136

1. \_\_\_\_\_, and it will be given to you; \_\_\_\_\_, and you will find; \_\_\_\_\_, and it will be opened to you.
2. Though the word “everyone” is found in v. 8, we must not conclude that Jesus is promising that everyone in the universal sense will be heard.
  - a. The kingdom of heaven is promised to the \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ and those \_\_\_\_\_ for righteousness’ sake.
  - b. Unless one’s righteousness exceeded that of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ he could not enter the kingdom.
  - c. Those who did their charitable deeds, offered their prayers, and fasted in order to be \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ had no reward from God.
  - d. Prayers filled with \_\_\_\_\_, like those of the heathen, were rejected by God.
  - e. Jeremiah assured the captives that the Lord would be found when He was sought with all their \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Is Jesus promising that God will grant us all the money we might desire? Cf. Matt. 6:19-21.
4. Instead of good things (Matt. 7:11), Luke 11:13 promises the \_\_\_\_\_.
5. If we asked for bread, we would not be given a \_\_\_\_\_ by either our earthly father or our Heavenly Father.
6. What does God do if we ask for “a stone,” i.e. something that would prove harmful to us?
7. What was said to be the second greatest command of the Law of Moses?
8. What “new commandment” did Jesus give the disciples in John 13:34?
9. Rather than give others what we might think they deserve, how does the “golden rule” teach us that we should treat others?
10. How can we learn to love others as God would have us to? Cf. 1 John 3:16-18; 4:7-11.
11. Applying the golden rule.
  - a. If you are given too much change by a cashier what should you do?
  - b. If you had fallen into sin, would you want your friends to ignore the situation or try to persuade you to repent?

## Lesson 19 / Matthew 7:13-15; *Invitation*, pp. 137-142

1. Find at least three New Testament passages that show God gives people the power to accept or reject Him.
2. The way that leads to life involves a \_\_\_\_\_ gate, and a way that is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. On the other hand, the way that seems easier leads to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. List some things that must be left behind if one is to take the way that leads to life.
5. Give three examples of how the “easy, fun” choices of the broad way can turn out to be hard, painful choices.
  - a. *E.g.* drinking could lead to being arrested.
6. List at least four blessings found along the narrow way.
  - a. *E.g.* the encouragement of your fellow-Christians.
7. Who was the false prophet that broke the yoke Jeremiah had been wearing?
8. What motivated the false prophets of Micah’s day? Micah 3:11
9. Where do we find the following?
  - a. Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
  - b. Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.
  - c. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.
  - d. But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.
10. How can we identify or recognize false teachers?

## Lesson 20 / Matthew 7:15-20; *Invitation*, pp. 143-148

1. Jesus has described the way to eternal life as involving a \_\_\_\_\_ gate which \_\_\_\_\_ will enter, while the way to destruction has a \_\_\_\_\_ gate which many go in by.
2. In Lesson 19 we noted that false teachers/prophets are first identified by the content of their teaching.
  - a. Do they teach the will of \_\_\_\_\_? Matt. 7:21
  - b. Only the truth can make one free. John 8:\_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Not even an \_\_\_\_\_ from heaven is allowed to preach a different gospel. Gal. 1:8
  - d. The test of acceptance or rejection is abiding in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ. 2 John 1:9-11
3. In this lesson we want to emphasize that false teaching and false character are connected.
4. The false teachers are described as ravenous wolves, but would approach the disciples in \_\_\_\_\_ clothing.
5. Paul described the false teachers at Corinth as false \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ workers, and “ministers of \_\_\_\_\_.”
6. How are the words of the divisive teachers described in Rom. 16:17, 18?
7. The false teachers of Rom. 16:17, 18 were said to serve their own \_\_\_\_\_, and not the Lord Jesus Christ.
8. Though the specifics of false teaching vary, it often involves...
  - a. Teaching that causes all men to speak \_\_\_\_\_ of them. Luke 6:26
  - b. Speaking words of comfort and \_\_\_\_\_. Jeremiah 6:14
  - c. Assuring their followers that “no \_\_\_\_\_ can come upon us.” Micah 3:11
  - d. Anything but the message of truth people need to hear. 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4:2-5
9. By contrast with those of #8, what did Paul preach to Felix and Drusilla? Acts 24:24, 25

10. When examining a teacher, which is commanded in 1 John 4:1, we begin by asking if the message is in accordance with Scripture (Acts 17:10, 11; Gal. 1:8, 9; 2 John 9-11), but Jesus also tells us that the bad fruit of false teaching results from a bad tree.
  - a. Anyone can be mistaken in his or her understanding of a passage of Scripture, but the \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 5:3) can be corrected.
  - b. Why were the charitable deeds, prayers, and fasts of some rejected by God? (I.e. what underlying motive for their actions did God reject?)
11. To produce genuinely good fruit in our lives we must be genuinely transformed.

Rom. \_\_\_\_\_:1, 2

  - a. As Earnhart put it, “Being a Christian is not simply a matter of *doing* something new, but of *being* something new.” *Invitation*, p. 146
12. According to Gal. 5:22-24, the lives of true teachers (and all disciples) will manifest what qualities?
13. 1 John was written to people being threatened by false teachers. Note the following points of emphasis in the brief epistle.
  - a. To claim fellowship with God while walking in \_\_\_\_\_ is to lie. 1:6
  - b. To know God, one must keep His \_\_\_\_\_. 2:3, 4
  - c. To abide in Christ, one must \_\_\_\_\_ as He \_\_\_\_\_. 2:6
  - d. Those born of God must practice \_\_\_\_\_. 2:29
  - e. One must practice \_\_\_\_\_ and love his \_\_\_\_\_. 3:10

## Lesson 21 / Matthew 7:21-23; *Invitation*, pp. 149-157

1. According to Matt. 7:21, who will enter the kingdom of heaven?
2. Are the people described in Matt. 7:22 hypocrites who simply pretend to be righteous?
3. Jesus is the author of eternal salvation to those who \_\_\_\_\_. Heb. 5:8, 9
4. One may appear religious, even to himself, and yet be in disobedience to God.
  - a. Some did not keep the commandments of God, but instead followed the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. Matt. 15:1-9
5. The Pharisees kept many of God's commandments, but neglected the \_\_\_\_\_ matters of the law: justice, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. Matt. 23:23
6. To keep the whole law and stumble in \_\_\_\_\_ point is to be guilty of \_\_\_\_\_. James 2:10
7. What Old Testament character, described by Peter as having loved the wages of unrighteousness, was allowed by God to prophesy?
8. Define lawlessness (iniquity).
9. Think carefully. What is the difference between the disciple of 1 John 1:5—2:2 who despite being guilty of sinning is cleansed of all unrighteousness and this one who has called Jesus Lord and done many wonders in His name? Why is the second man's sin not forgiven?
10. Jesus castigated the Pharisees for seeking to \_\_\_\_\_ themselves before men. Luke 16:15
11. What was the standard of righteousness for the Pharisee in Luke 18:9-14?
12. What are we warned against in Gal. 6:3?
13. Whom does James describe as deceiving his own heart? James 1:26, 27
14. If we say that we have no \_\_\_\_\_, we deceive ourselves. 1 John 1:8
15. List three passages which show that the faith which saves or justifies us is an obedient faith.
16. Did the Lord approve of David moving the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem? Did He approve of the first method David chose for doing it?
17. How can we be sure we are not going to get a judgment surprise and be told to depart?

## Lesson 22 / Matthew 7:24-27; *Invitation*, pp. 158-166

1. In the conclusion to the sermon Jesus challenged His listeners...
  - a. To choose the \_\_\_\_\_ gate and the \_\_\_\_\_ way.
  - b. Not to merely call Him Lord, but to \_\_\_\_\_ the will of the Father.
2. To what kind of builder did Jesus compare the one who heard His sayings and did them?
3. What happened to the first builder's house when the floods came?
4. To hear the sayings of Jesus and then not obey them is to be like what kind of builder?
5. What happens to the second builder's house when the storm comes?
6. What does the storm represent in this "parable?"
7. How would you answer those who say...
  - a. John 3:16 is all you need to know about salvation?
  - b. To insist upon strict obedience to the Scriptures is Pharisaic legalism?
  - c. Since we are saved by grace, it doesn't matter if we obey the details of God's law?
8. James \_\_\_\_:14-26 makes it clear that faith without \_\_\_\_\_ cannot justify.
9. Read Heb. 11:4, 7, 8, 17. How was the faith of Abel, Noah, and Abraham demonstrated?

## Lesson 23 / Matthew 7:26-29; *Invitation*, pp. 167-172

1. Though the lesson will focus on Matt. 7:26-29, please take the time to reread the entire conclusion found in Matt. 7:13-29.
2. What two choices did Jesus set before men in Matt. 7:13, 14?
3. Who will enter the kingdom of heaven? Matt. 7:21-23
4. To what kind of builder does Jesus compare the one who hears His sayings and does them?
5. Who is compared to a foolish man who builds his house?
6. What will happen to a house built on sand?
7. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus does not simply offer wise counsel, but warns of divine judgment that will fall on the disobedient.
  - a. What is done to the salt that has lost its flavor (savor)?
  - b. To call your brother a fool is to be in danger of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. It was better to lose a hand or eye than to have the whole body cast into \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. What will happen to those who refuse to forgive the trespasses of others?
  - e. The wide gate and broad way lead to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - f. What would be done to the trees that did not bear good fruit?
  - g. What would Jesus say to those who had not done the will of the Father?
8. Match the following:

a. Furnace of fire; wailing and gnashing of teeth.	1) Matt. 8:12
b. Worm does not die; fire is not quenched.	2) Matt. 13:50, 51
c. Punished with everlasting destruction.	3) Matt. 25:41
d. Everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.	4) 2 Thes. 1:9
9. When Jesus ended His discourse the people were \_\_\_\_\_ because He taught them as one having \_\_\_\_\_.

10. Think carefully on the authority of Jesus as it is seen in the Sermon on the Mount.
  - a. How did He describe His relationship to the Law and the Prophets? 5:17
  - b. How many times in the Sermon do we find the words, “I say to you”?
  - c. Who would send away those unfit to enter the kingdom of heaven? 7:21-23
  - d. Whose sayings (teachings) guided the wise man? 7:24-27
11. Answer thoughtfully and honestly: are you ready to stand before the judgment seat of Christ? Rom. 14:10