Discussion Questions Matthew 6

1. How does Matthew 6 develop the major themes that were revealed in Matthew 5? Remember, the Sermon on the Mount is a single sermon that has unity and development. Trace the progression of Jesus thought from Matthew 5 to Matthew 6.

2. The first half of Matthew 6 is related to hypocrisy (6:1-18), while the second half is related to anxiety (6:19-34). Is there any relationship between the two? What is the connection between the first and second half of Matthew 6?

3. How many times is the word "Father" used in Matthew 6? Circle each instance in your Bible. How is the Fatherhood of God a solution to both hypocrisy and anxiety? What does "Father" imply about one's relationship with God?

4. In Matthew 6:1-24, Jesus highlights several values and motives that dishonor God. List all the negative values and motives that you see in this section. How might these negative characteristics be expressed in your modern cultural context?

5. In Matthew 6:1-24, Jesus also highlights the values and motives that honor God. List all the positive values and motives that you see in this section. Why do you think Jesus focuses on secret prayer and money as important factors in relation to proper values and motives?

6. What does Jesus model prayer in Matthew 6:9-15 teach us about prayer? How does this prayer instruct us concerning the focus that Christ's disciples should have? Why do you think the pronoun "our" is used instead of "my"? Why is forgiveness mentioned so frequently in this prayer?

7. In Matthew 6:25-34, Jesus addresses anxiety. How does anxiety reveal a lack of faith? What does it mean to seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness? How will this cure anxiety?

8. In what ways are you tempted to do spiritual things in order to be seen by others? Do financial concerns and the cares of this world ever keep you from seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness? How does Matthew 6 help you to reorient your focus so that you live for God's glory and kingdom?