

Day 2 of Lent - Righteous Acts - acts of mercy and acts of justice

Biblical lessons: Lent is a time for us to learn how to be vessels that God's light can shine out of so that people will praise the Father in Heaven

This is your script delving into the first of the three areas Jesus taught - it covers most of chapter 5 and a bit into 6. We are picking it up in chapter 6.

Instructions:

1. Read the script a few times before the presentation.
2. Sit in a quiet place. You may want to light a candle and bring a Bible to the lesson.
3. Read slowly and deliberately.
4. Keep your voice soft as if sharing something very special and confidential.
5. Remember your child is indwelt by the Spirit and has the ability to learn from God just like an adult. God may use him to challenge you to discover a new facet about God's immense love for the world and our role as citizens of the City of Light in the Kingdom of God.

Light your candle.

Pause.

Matthew 6: 1-4

Jesus: But when you do these righteous acts, do not do them in front of spectators. Don't do them where you can be seen, let alone lauded, by others. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

When you give to the poor, do not boast about it, announcing your donations with blaring trumpets as the play actors do. Do not brazenly give your charity in the synagogues and on the streets; indeed, do not give at all if you are giving because you want to be praised by your neighbors. Those people who give in order to reap praise have already received their reward.

When you give to the needy, do it in secret—even your left hand should not know what your right hand is doing. Then your Father, who sees in secret, will reward you.

Jesus was a teaching about doing Acts of Righteousness. In English we say Righteousness, but in the language Jesus was speaking Righteousness is really two words: 1. Mercy and 2. Justice

Mercy is helping others who need help so that they won't need help later.

and

Justice is fighting for someone that is being hurt by others. Doing what is right even when it is hard.

Then Jesus told the people that to be the people of God who will point the way to their Father in heaven they need to do more than just the right things.

They need to be want to do the right things because they Love the Father in heaven and then they can truly love his other children.

To Jesus doing righteous acts is all about doing it because you love the Father. He loves us and can see why we are doing things and will help us want to do what is right.

I wonder how important Acts of Righteousness are in showing others about our Father and that we are the People of God?

I wonder if you have ever done the right things for the wrong reason?

I wonder how during Lent we as a family can secretly show Mercy to others?

I wonder how during Lent we as a family can secretly show Justice to others?