

KEY Verse

Matt. 7:12

Therefore **Matt. 7:12**
all things whatsoever ye
would that men should
do to you, do ye even so
to them: for this is the
law and the prophets.

The Golden Rule

“Do unto others as you would have them do to you” is called the Golden Rule. For many years in our country, every school child knew the Golden Rule. But in the 1960s, the Bible was taken out of public schools.

Christian parents need to teach their children the Golden Rule.

Prayer/FASTING

Fasting is needed when there are strong spiritual needs, and natural desires are laid aside. Fasting is between God and the person and not for public display. Certain spiritual power and gifts come only by prayer and fasting. After Jesus performed a miracle, He said—“*This kind (power) can come forth by nothing, but by **prayer** and **fasting**.*” Mark 9:29

Scripture to read before next study

Luke 10:25–37 Matt. 25:14–30
Luke 19:12–26

Lesson
6

Parables
& Ecclesiastes
Compass

Luke 7:40–43 18:1–14
Matt. 18:23–35

Prayer & Forgiveness



Pharisee and
publican
pray

“Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.”

Luke 18:10

The Pharisee prayed with himself, not to God; he said, “*God, I thank thee that I am not as other men.*” He was self-satisfied, had no needs, and boasted about himself.

The publican prayed, “*God, be merciful to me a sinner;*” he admitted he was a sinner.

The publican was forgiven, but the Pharisee went home condemned.

Tithing

In the Pharisee's prayer, he said, "*I give tithes of all I possess.*" Israel was commanded to tithe the produce of their fields and cattle. This Pharisee also tithed the mint and tiny spices he grew.

In Matt. 23:23, Jesus said, "*Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, **judgment, mercy,** and **faith:** these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.*"

Jesus highlighted 3 important things—judgment, mercy, and faith. Then He added—don't leave "*the other **undone**,*" which is **tithing**.

Widow keeps asking

This widow persisted in visiting the unjust judge to ask him to avenge her of an adversary. We are not told what the adversary did, but she was determined not to give up. She was convinced her cause was right and would not give up. The widow got what she asked, because she did not give up.

This illustrates the need to continue praying about a need and not to "**faint**," which is to give up or quit praying about a matter.



King forgives

The King represents God. The King's servant owed the King 10,000 talents, which he could not pay. Therefore, he, his wife, and children were to be sold as slaves. In those days, this could happen when a person could not pay a big debt.

The servant came, entreated the King to have patience with him, and he would pay all. The **King** had compassion and **forgave** his servant the **full debt**.

King freely forgives servant.



But King's servant does not forgive

The King's servant had a fellow servant who owed him a small amount. When the fellow servant asked for mercy, the servant had him cast into prison till he could pay the debt. The King heard this and sent tormentors to the servant he had forgiven.

If God forgives our wrongs, we should forgive those who wrong us. If we do not forgive them, God will chasten us by letting us be tormented.

What a warning! To harbor unforgiveness in our heart brings God's judgment. Thus, forgiving others is important.

King's servant does not forgive a fellow servant,

but has him cast into prison.

