Be Real; Talk with God

Matthew 6:1-18

Isaiah 29:13 Then the Lord said, "Because this people draw near with their words And honor Me with their lip service, But they remove their hearts far from Me, And their reverence for Me consists of tradition learned *by rote*,

¹⁴ Therefore behold, I will once again deal marvelously with this people, wondrously marvelous; And the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, And the discernment of their discerning men shall be concealed."

¹⁵ Woe to those who deeply hide their plans from the LORD, And whose deeds are *done* in a dark place, And they say, "Who sees us?" or "Who knows us?"

You turn *things* around! Shall the potter be considered as equal with the clay, That what is made should say to its maker, "He did not make me"; Or what is formed say to him who formed it, "He has no understanding "?

Ezekiel 36:26 "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

²⁷ "And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

²⁸ "And you will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.

How to be real:

1. Examine motives

Matthew 6:1 "Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven.

2. Give secretly

² "When therefore you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be honored by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.

³ "But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing

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⁴ that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

3. Pray secretly

⁵ "And when you pray, you are not to be as the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners, in order to be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.

⁶ "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

How to talk with God:

1. Talk normally

⁷ "And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition, as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words.

⁸ "Therefore do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need, before you ask Him.

2. Talk about God's interests

- ⁹ "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.
- ¹⁰ 'Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.
- ¹¹ 'Give us this day our daily bread.
- ¹² 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
- ¹³ 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.'
- ¹⁴ "For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.
- ¹⁵ "But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

3. Plan special extended times with God

- ¹⁶ "And whenever you fast, do not put on a gloomy face as the hypocrites *do*, for they neglect their appearance in order to be seen fasting by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.
- ¹⁷ "But you, when you fast, anoint your head, and wash your face
- ¹⁸ so that you may not be seen fasting by men, but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

- **1 Corinthians 11:23** For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread;
- ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."
- ²⁵ In the same way *He took* the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."
- ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- ²⁷ Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord.
- ²⁸ But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.
- ²⁹ For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly.
- ³⁰ For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep.
- ³¹ But if we judged ourselves rightly, we should not be judged.
- ³² But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord in order that we may not be condemned along with the world.

All Scripture is from the NASV