



Ice Breaker (in groups of 2 or 3 for larger groups)

What was your first car? Was there anything special about it?

Talk About it!

1. Read **Matthew 6:1-4**

- a. Why do you think we have a desire to be recognized? How have you seen this show up in your own life?
- b. Do you think it is ever appropriate to give a person recognition and for them to receive it? If so, when? If not, why not?

2. Read **Matthew 6:5-6**

- a. How have you seen God respond to your private prayers?
- b. We know from the wider breadth of scripture that praying privately isn't the only way we should pray. How would you describe a healthy way to pray publically? Share an example.

3. Read **Matthew 6:16-18**

- a. What has your experience with fasting been?
- b. Why do you think God rewards "anonymous" giving, prayer, and fasting?

4. How might the Holy Spirit be leading you to grow in your practice of giving, praying, or fasting?



Scripture Reference

MATTHEW 6:1-4 NLT

1 “Watch out! Don’t do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others, for you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven. **2** When you give to someone in need, don’t do as the hypocrites do—blowing trumpets in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of charity! I tell you the truth, they have received all the reward they will ever get. **3** But when you give to someone in need, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. **4** Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.”

MATTHEW 6:5-6 NLT

5 “When you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. **6** But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.”

MATTHEW 6:16-18 NLT

16 “And when you fast, don’t make it obvious, as the hypocrites do, for they try to look miserable and disheveled so people will admire them for their fasting. I tell you the truth, that is the only reward they will ever get. **17** But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. **18** Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in private. And your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.”