

THE COVERT DISCIPLE



Questions for Application for the Week of April 14, 2014 Part 3 - When You Fast - Matthew 6:16-18

1. Jesus assumed that we would give, pray and fast (Mt 6:1-18). How often have you thought of the latter in comparison to the first two? What role, if any, has fasting played in your walk with Christ and why do you think it is not addressed more often in the church today?

2. The “hypocrites” always looked the part but they were missing the point. In what ways can you be tempted to practice your righteousness in order to be seen by people today (Mt. 6:1)?

3. While Jesus’ death was brutal and deserves our solemn remembrance, Jesus did not anticipate us walking around disfigured and forlorn (Mt. 6:16) but that we would live in the celebration of his victory over death. Why is it then that “religious” people can so often appear to be unhappy? Do you even agree with that assumption? Why or why not? If true, what message does that give to the fallen world?

4. While the practical benefit of fasting is not immediately clear, Jesus does promise that when we do fast our father in heaven will reward us (Mt. 6:18). If you have fasted, how would you describe the practical “benefit”? If you haven’t fasted before, what do you suspect that it could be?

5. This coming weekend we will celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ. How do you anticipate preparing your heart this week for that celebration? What difference (if any) will this week have in your year as opposed to any other week? In what ways could you set it apart?

6. For personal reflection: Do you plan on fasting this week? What (if anything) will you pray and fast for? Remember that many will be taking steps to invite friends and family, and perhaps, you yourself will make the effort. Ask the Lord to be richly present in our services and draw many to Christ.

JOIN US
**EASTER
WEEKEND**
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES
Friday, April 18th at 6:00pm & 7:30pm
EASTER SERVICES
Saturday, April 19th at 5:00pm
Saturday, April 20th at 9:00am & 11:00am

If you are a regular attender at Salem Chapel and have flexibility in your schedule, would you consider attending at 5pm or 9am on Easter weekend to allow space for visiting families to join at 11am.