

MARCH 28

“ARE YOU TRYING TO HOLD ON TO THINGS WITH ONE HAND AND REACH UP TO GOD WITH THE OTHER?”

READ

Matthew 6:19-21, 1 Timothy 6:17-18

Sometimes people struggle with prayer. Could it be that the problem in prayer is related to a lack in giving? Maybe that's why prayers don't seem to get through. Are we trying to hold onto things with one hand and reach up to God with the other? Jesus talked more about giving and doing good works than He ever did about heaven and hell. When we hear about money and possessions, we become defensive. Three groups came to John for baptism: everyday people, tax collectors, and soldiers. After being baptized, each group asked, "What should we do?" John told the first group if they had two tunics, they should give one away. He told the tax collectors not to take money that wasn't theirs. The soldiers were told to be content with their wages. Everything he told them had to do with money. If we know what to do and don't do it, it is sin. Isaiah 59:2 says that your sins have cut you off from God. If you're struggling with prayer, open both hands and lift them to the Lord.

PRAY

Lord, forgive me of my sin. I don't always do what I know to do. I don't want anything standing between me and You, blocking my prayer. You have been so generous to me. May I be more like You.

From August 24, 2014