

Virginia Pastor, Wife Arrested in \$1.2M Congregational Fraud

Columbus Pastor Arrested for Insurance Fraud

Pastor Convicted of Embezzling \$12M From His Church

Detroit Pastor Gets Prison For Using Church For Fraud



Luka 20345-47 (NIV) SRG Bibles page 1055

Warning Against the Teachers of the Law

45 While all the people were listening, Jesus said to his disciples, 46 "Beware of the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at

47 They devour widows' houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely."

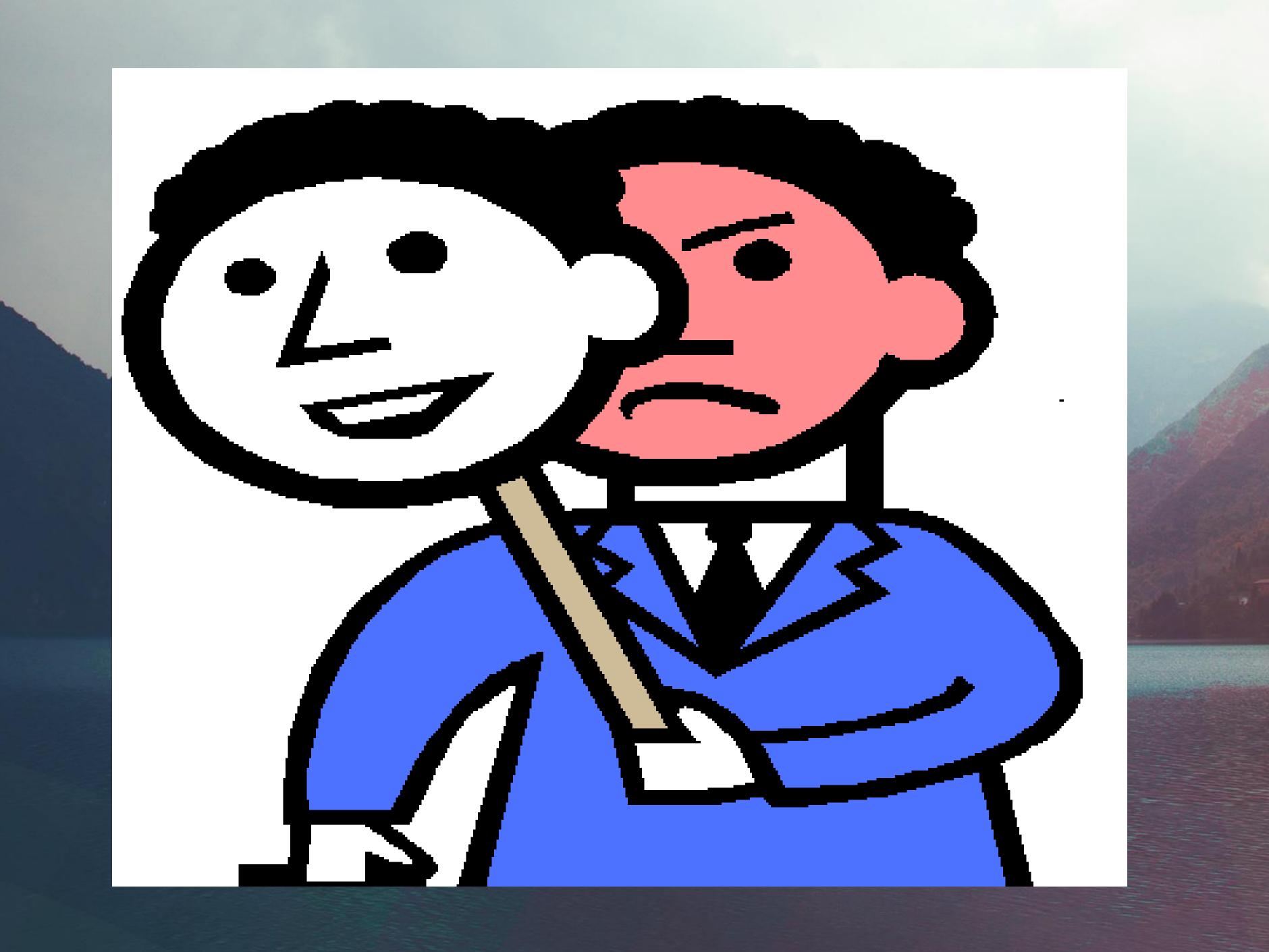


Matthew 6

"Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5

5 "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.



What diminishes and hinders our prayer life?

Fafigue

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Fafigue

Hyperactivity

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Fafigue

Hyperachyity

Pride

Prelyar

There seems to be time for everything else,

but not time for prayer.

Our prayerlessness shows a false sense of self-sufficiency.

Jeremiah 2:11-13 (NIV)

11 Has a nation ever changed its gods?

(Yet they are not gods at all.)

But my people have exchanged their glorious God

for worthless idols.

12 Be appalled at this, you heavens, and shudder with great horror," declares the Lord.

13 "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

There is a lack of confidence that something like prayer can actually get anything done.

relationship of the listener to the One who calls.

Abraham follows God's call without a plan or a place because we would try to get there without him if we had it.

Embrace Your Woundedness Don't Deny It

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Be Authentic

Don't Just Play a Role

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Seek Community Don't Isolate

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Abide in Christ Don't Just Stay Busy

How much we pray is a matter of appetite of hunger for God and all that he is and desires.

C.S. Lawis, Waight of Glory

"If we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels it would seem that our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too Wed C.

We are halfhearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea.

"We are too easily plaasad."

- · YouTube Video
- My Identity in Christ (1:39)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hsDQEb-qlyM



"Why Are We Praying?" "To Whom Are We Praying?"

Everything Depends on the Relationship of the Listener to the One Who Calls Him/Her to Follow.



