Matthew 5: 20-26
Jesus said to his disciples:
"I tell you,
unless your righteousness surpasses that
of the scribes and Pharisees,
you will not enter into the Kingdom of heaven.
"You have heard that it was said to your ancestors,
You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.
But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother
will be liable to judgment,
and whoever says to his brother, Raqa,
will be answerable to the Sanhedrin,
and whoever says, 'You fool,' will be liable to fiery Gehenna.
Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar,
and there recall that your brother
has anything against you,
leave your gift there at the altar,
go first and be reconciled with your brother,
and then come and offer your gift.
Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court.
Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge,
and the judge will hand you over to the guard,
and you will be thrown into prison.
Amen, I say to you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny."

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**Our Scripture Reflection**

What good is your faith if you don’t apply it to your day to day living of life? In our very secularized society it seems that faith is something people practice “after five and on the weekends.” But is that it? Jesus once told His disciples to “let your light shine”, and to “never hide your light under a basket.” If we profess to believe in Jesus, then we must let what we believe about Him have an effect on how we live, especially when it comes to loving and serving others.

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**Food for your Journey**

I don't think you can ever separate your religious, ethical or moral values from the way you do your job. There are social opportunities and obligations that go with sharing one's religion, such as compassionate care of the sick.

--C. Everett Koop,

former U.S. Surgeon General

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**A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear God, I see so much sadness in this world. So many people hunger and thirst for You even when they don’t realize it. Just when I think I can’t do much about it all, I read and listen to the words of Your Son Jesus. While I cannot change the whole world I can change a piece of it with the help Your Grace. Make me an instrument of Your peace. Amen