

Passage: Matthew 6:1-4  
Title: Give for His Glory

## INTRODUCTION

- Why do you do what you do? What motivates you? money, comfort, wealth, recognition, safety, love, loyalty, Bringing God Glory?
1. Warning: “*Beware*” (1)
    - “*Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people*”
      - Don't practice your righteousness merely for others to see and recognize.
      - In 5:20: Righteous living is mandated by Jesus.
        - 5:21-48 = Outward focus. Primarily dealing with our relationship with others
        - 6:1-18 = Internal focus: Primarily dealing with our spiritual relationship with God.
          - 3 righteous deeds mentioned in this section (6:1-18)
            - Giving (1-4)
            - Prayer (5-15)
            - Fasting (16-18)
        - Our lives are not about how we appear, but about how God appears to others around us. It's about giving Him glory.

**Transition:** sometimes we have to learn how NOT to do something in order to understand how to do something.

2. How **NOT** to give (2)
  - “Sound no trumpet before you”
    - Don't try to draw attention to the fact that you are giving.
    - Jesus calls these people hypocrite
      - **Definition:** someone that act one way and actually is something else.
      - What does it mean to hypocritically give?
        - True giving is focused on the recipient. Done out of love, care, compassion
        - Hypocritically I give to focus on me. Done out of a heart of self gratitude and recognition.
    - What is their reward?
      - “*Praised by others*” = the approval of man.
      - Jesus says they have traded the reward of God for the reward of man.
    - Give as if God is your audience and no one else matters. Ask him for guidance on how to operate with what He has entrusted to you. Be tender to the Spirits leading and give as God instructs you.

**Transition:** We see the warning and how NOT to give, now let's look at how Jesus wants us to give.

3. How to give (3-4)

- Jesus doesn't say "if" you give, but "*When you give*"
  - Jesus expects God's followers to be giving.
- "*Do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing*"
  - Hyperbole: Extreme exaggeration.
  - Jesus is saying don't seek recognition.
- "*Give in secret*"
  - Give for God's glory

### CONCLUSION

- Matthew 5:16 "*Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*"
- Why do you do what you do? What is your motivation. If God leads you to give of your time, talents, treasures whether it's publicly or privately, then do it. Obey with the motivation of bringing him Glory. Make God look good.

### Discussion Questions:

1. What is the motivation behind your good works?
2. Is your focus eternal or temporal?
3. When is the last time you put others needs before your own?
4. Do you actively ask yourself how you can give of your time, talents, or treasures?
5. Look for an opportunity to give this week.