

In the Secret Places: Giving in Secret

Matthew 6:1–4

Opening Discussion:

1. Why do most people in our culture do good deeds?
2. What is your motive for doing good deeds?
3. Why is it important to keep our motives for doing good deeds pure?
4. How can it be challenging to do the right things for the right reasons?

When we give to be seen by others, the _____ of others is all we will _____. When we give in _____, God will _____ us.

Explore the Passage

1. Beware of _____ your _____ before other people in order to be seen by them.

This is an issue of _____, not _____.

*Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. **Matthew 5:16***

2. You will have no _____ from your Father who is in _____.

Do we want the rewards only God can give, or do we want the rewards people can give us?

3. First example: _____

*For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, "You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land." **Deuteronomy 15:11***

When we do good deeds in order to earn the praise of others, we lose _____ God has for us, and we take _____ away from God.

Fill in the Blank Answers:

Opening Discussion

When we give to be seen by others, the applause of others is all we will receive. When we give in secret, God will reward us.

Explore the Passage

1. practicing, righteousness, motives, actions
2. reward, heaven
3. giving

When we do good deeds in order to earn the praise of others, we lose rewards God has for us, and we take worship away from God.