

## A SECRET LIFE FOR GOD: GIVING

September 14, 2014 Matthew 6:1-4 by Bob Branch  
The Truly Liberated Life, Part 14

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**MAIN IDEA:** Cultivating a desire to please God and seek His approval is counter-intuitive to our natural thinking but is the ticket to a rewarding life.

“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 6:1**”

1. Jesus mentions **3 SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES** that are part of setting things right with God, others, self and creation: **Giving, Praying and Fasting.**

2. Our motives are always seen in the AUDIENCE we play for.

“they loved human praise more than praise from God.”  
**John 12:43**

<sup>2</sup> “So *when* you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. **Matthew 6:2**”

**Hypocrites:** actor under a mask; pretender

“**Paid in full**” transaction completed

3. We get the REWARD WE SEEK. According to audience we play for.

“whatever you did for one of the least... you did to me.”  
**Matthew 25:40**

“...the one who stores up treasure for himself, and who is not rich toward God!” **Luke 12:21** LEB

But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. **Matthew 6:3-4**

4. Giving is part of how GOD SETS THINGS RIGHT through us.

5. Cultivate a SECRET LIFE WITH GOD. Do things that only He sees.

“The increased desire to please God and seek HIS approval will decrease the desire to seek approval from man.”

**TRUTH: We are always living before an ever-present live audience.**

“Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.” **Hebrews 4:13**

**Psalms 139:1-12**

**How to create a secret life with God?**

- Time aside for him and you.
- Listening for his voice, in the word, conversations, intuition, creation.
- Do simple things no one else but he sees. Whisper to him: “This is for you”