

Sermon

ON THE MOUNT

Discussion Guide — Motives of the Heart

Main Idea

This week, we had guest speaker, Megan Wright, leader of our Sisterhood Ministry, speak to us about the motives of our heart. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught that we should do our giving in secret, not announcing it to the world as we give. This really goes to the motives of our hearts, and whether we are doing our giving just to be seen by others. This doesn't just apply to giving, but can be any good work that we do. If it is done to be admired for our goodness, then we actually steal the glory away from God in the process.

Make It Practical

- A place where we are seeking approval of God, not the praise of men.
- Giving is good until you give to look good, then it's good for nothing.
- God wants us to give freely and cheerfully - in obedience to HIM ALONE.
- When we are giving from a place of pressure, it's because we're scared of being judged by our "no".

“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.”

Matthew 6:3-4

Talk About It

1. What makes us want to promote ourselves when we are generous with our money? Have you ever been tempted to share how you were generous before?
2. Do you think this principle applies only to giving? What other things could this principle apply to?
3. What are some practical ways that you can keep your giving in secret?
4. How does giving in public take away glory from God?
5. Have you ever felt pressured to give to something before? Why does God say that He wants a cheerful giver?

