



**MATTHEW 6:1-4** "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. 2 Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

MATTHEW 23:5-11 "They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, 6 and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues 7 and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi[a] by others. 8 But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. [b] 9 And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. 10 Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ. 11 The greatest among you shall be your servant."

- Our acceptabliliy to God comes not from how we are seen by others, but how God sees us.
- We are to be God righteous, not self-righteous

**JOHN 5:44** "How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?"

**MATTHEW 5:14-16** "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that[b] they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

 Our actions that are visible to the world and give glory to God become invisible to us.

**COLOSSIANS 3:23-24** "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."

Would I still do this if no one would ever know I did it?

Lord Jesus, let me know myself and know you, And desire nothing, save only you. Let me hate myself and love you. Let me do everything for the sake of you. Let me humble myself and exalt you. Let me think of nothing except you. Let me die to myself and live in you. Let me accept whatever happens as from you. Let me banish self and follow you, And ever desire to follow you. Let me fly from myself and take refuge in you, That I may deserve to be defended by you. Let me fear for myself, let me fear you, And let me be among those who are chosen by you. Let me distrust myself and put my trust in you. Let me be willing to obey for the sake of you. Let me cling to nothing, save only to you, And let me be poor because of you. Look upon me, that I may love you. Call me, that I may see you, And for ever enjoy you. Amen.

—St Augustine of Hippo

## STUDY GULDE questions for later

## DISCUSSION

1. What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?

## 2. Read Matthew 6:1-4

- · What does it look like to be God righteous, not self-righteous?
- · How do we blow the trumpet for God, but not toot our own horn?
- How can we be God's image bearer, but not come across as the hypocrite?
- How do I do every deed for the Audience of One?
- 3. Reality check: Would I still do this if no one would ever know I did it?

Answer this question honestly as it applies to your tithing, charitable giving, volunteering, and anything you do for God and others.

## **ACTION STEPS**

1. **HEART**- Discover and deepen your relationship with Jesus through the Daily Devotional provided on our app and website (northridgenow.org/bestsermonever).

Invite three people of your same gender to form a *DNA Group*, committing to meet together weekly to discover and deepen your relationship with Jesus. Contact brad@northridgenow.org for more information on forming a DNA Group.

- 2. **HARD TO REACH** Identify someone this week who is far from Jesus. Find ways to hear their story and begin building a relationship with them.
- 3. **HOME** Spend time with your family discussing ways to grow in devotion to Jesus so that His value in our life is easily and naturally seen by others. Contact emily@northridgenow.org for more resources.
- 4. **HURTING** Identify someone who is hungry, sick, anxious, lonely, or has some other need. Find ways to meet that need.