



Giving & Kingdom Citizens

Matthew 6:1-4

Introduction: Open your Bible to Matthew 6. Here are the titles of the upcoming messages:

- _____ and Kingdom Citizens – Matthew 6:1-4
- _____ and Kingdom Citizens – Matthew 6:5-15
- _____ and Kingdom Citizens – Matthew 6:16-18
- _____ and Kingdom Citizens – Matthew 6:19-24
- _____ and Kingdom Citizens – Matthew 6:25-34

Now, with that information behind us, let's jump into the teachings of Jesus Christ on GIVING.

I own several Bible's, and one Bible that I own has a heading above Matthew 6 that reads, **How to _____**. In my NKJV the heading reads, **Do _____ to Please God**. You see, Matthew 6:1-4 is about charitable deeds, almsgiving, or giving to the poor.

I remind us that our _____, even in giving, must exceed the righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees (Matthew 5:20).

Charitable Deeds

Are you a _____? Why do you give? Do you give to your local church? Do you give to any Christian ministries? Do you give to the poor? Do you give to charitable organizations? What is your favorite charity? Here are some possible places to invest your money – The Union Gospel Mission, Cup of Grace, and Open Arms.

Kingdom Citizens should be givers and we should give from the right motivation.

I had a friend in the church, Larry Brotzman who used to say, "givers are gainers."

Why do we _____? To be seen by men, or to be rewarded by God?

I. Don't Give to be _____ by man – 6:1

1 "Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

The two words “*Take heed*” can also be translated in a wide variety of ways. Such as:

- Be _____
- Beware
- _____ out
- Take heed

Next, the words “*Charitable deeds*” are also translated the following ways:

- King James Version – _____ (be compassionate by word or deed).
- English Standard Version – practicing your righteousness.
- New Living Translation – _____ deeds.
- The Message – trying to be good.

Jesus is warning us about doing our good works, deeds of kindness, or acts of giving to be seen by people.

Questions: Do we do our charitable deeds to be seen by _____ as a philanthropist?

Charles Spurgeon wrote, “Alms may be given _____, but not for the sake of publicity.” That is a great quote, and one we should take to heart.

Kingdom Citizens should desire to serve _____ (providing for the needy) because it’s the God thing to do. It’s not for earthly rewards. We know that what we do for God will one day be rewarded in glory. Live for the future reward and not that which tarnish and fades away.

II. Don’t sound a _____ when you Give – 6:2

2 Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

Therefore – In light of verse 1, Jesus teaches that when we are engaged in doing deeds of kindness, such as giving to the poor that we do not sound a trumpet. We are not to try and get everyone’s eyes on us.

Super Christian Film

Bless me, who gave you this Drink

Jesus went on to say that this is what the _____ did in the synagogues and in the streets. No doubt He is speaking about the Pharisees.

The pharisees engaged in alms giving not with pure motives, but with _____ motives – to be seen by men. They wanted the _____ of man. The real motive behind giving ought to be to please God, and not to receive the accolades of man.

Now, the word “*hypocrites*” comes from the _____ world. The world of stage and drama.

Some people do things for others to receive glory from man. They want their five minutes of fame. They want their moment in the spotlight. They want the pat on the back, and the applause of people.

Today’s Culture

Don’t miss what Jesus teaches in this verse. He says, those who must receive the praise of man already have their _____, and they will not receive anything from God.

So far, we have seen how we are **not to** _____ .

III. Don’t allow your left hand to know what your right hand is _____ when you Give – 6:3

3 But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

Our charitable activity should be done in such a way that our left hand is not knowing what the right hand is doing.

The metaphorical use of the right hand and left hand in this phrase suggests that one can accomplish something without the involvement or knowledge of others, even those who are close or intimately involved in the situation.

The Audience of One

When we **GIVE** the right way, God will “ _____ ” us. I found it interesting that the word “*reward*” used here in verse 4, carries with it the idea of _____, or reimbursement.

In Proverbs 19:17, we read, “*He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD, and He will pay back what he has given.*”

IV. Give in _____ – 6:4

4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

Jesus now teaches us the _____ way to do our charitable deeds. Circle the word “*secret*”. Kingdom Citizens are to engage those in need in secret. We don’t tell anyone what we are doing. No, we just do it.

A Few Examples

Here are some suggested ways to give in secret:

1. _____ – anonymously.
2. Cash gifts – leave not paper trail.
3. Donate through a _____ designed fund.

Throughout the Years

GIVERS give _____! Givers do not draw attention to themselves.

Dr. Warren Wiersbe wrote, “people who give without fanfare will _____ spiritually; God will be _____; and others will be _____.”

Conclusion: The ideas of not seeking to be seen by others, not sounding a trumpet when giving, not letting your right hand know what your left hand is doing, and giving in secret are all based on the principle of _____. The act of giving should not be done for personal gain or _____, but rather out of a genuine desire to _____ others. By keeping our giving private and away from the public eye, we can avoid the temptation of seeking _____ or approval for our actions. Ultimately, true _____ stems from a selfless heart and a willingness to give without any expectation of reward or recognition.

Five Steps in GIVING

1. Be ready to GIVE _____.
2. Don't GIVE to be _____ by others.
3. Don't toot your own _____ when you GIVE.
4. GIVE _____ and spontaneously.
5. GIVE in _____.

I want to close with two verses from 1 Timothy. We read in 1 Timothy 6:17-19 the following words of encouragement about GIVING:

17 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. 18 Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, 19 storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

[1] Barclay, W. (2001). *The Gospel of Matthew* (Third Ed., p. 217). Saint Andrew Press.

[2] Courson, J. (2003). *Jon Courson's Application Commentary*(p. 31). Thomas Nelson.