

When You Give

Matthew 6:1–4 · Cornerstone Today · CT070

EPISODE SUMMARY

Jesus opens Matthew 6 by turning from what we do to why we do it. Using giving as his first example, he warns against righteousness performed for an audience — and points us instead to the quiet generosity that is seen, and rewarded, by the Father who sees in secret.

KEY THEMES

Motive over performance • The two audiences • Giving in secret • The Father who sees • A reward that lasts

KEY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:1–4 (CSB) — primary text. Matthew 5:16 — “let your light shine,” the verse this passage must be read alongside.

TAKEAWAY TRUTH

Giving that reaches for applause is already paid in full by the applause. Giving done quietly for the Father is seen by the only audience who can truly reward it.

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

Where am I doing a good thing partly for the credit? Jesus doesn’t say stop — he says keep doing it, and let it go unseen, trusting the Father who sees in secret.

SERIES FOCUS

Matthew 6 — The Hidden Life (Week 1 of the block). Up next: “When You Pray” (Matthew 6:5–8).