All In with Jordan Easley

A Heart that Honors God

Kingdom Culture | Part 8 | Matthew 6:1-4

NOTES INTRODUCTION I want you to imagine two chairs: one labeled OLD and the other NEW. Everyone knows what it's like to sit in the OLD chair. This chair symbolizes our old self, our original nature as sinners. Psalm 51:5 says, "Indeed, I was guilty when I was born; I was sinful when my mother conceived me." In the OLD chair, we strive for personal success, wealth, comfort, and status. We're driven by self-interest and the applause of others. We live to build ourselves up and prop up our own name. But when Jesus saves us, He changes our chair, our minds, our hearts, our desires, and our actions. The NEW chair represents following Jesus. In this chair, our focus is different: we seek God's righteousness, build His Kingdom, serve others selflessly, and share Christ faithfully. In this chair, Jesus is King, and we live for His glory, not ours. As we turn to Matthew 6, Jesus shifts from internal transformation to external practices and asks: Why do you do the things you do? The world measures actions. The Lord measures motives. **KEY POINTS** 1. The Caution: Don't Give to Be Seen Jesus said, "Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward with your Father in heaven." The Pharisees did everything to be seen by people. They prayed elaborate prayers, fasted publicly, and gave loudly, not to honor God but to gain applause. In our day, it's easy to fall into the same trap. We might volunteer only when others notice or give gifts as long as our names are recognized. But Jesus warns: if we seek human applause instead of divine approval, that applause will be our only reward, and we will miss out on God's blessings. 2. The Corruption: Make It Private, Not a Performance In Jesus' time, offerings were collected in trumpet-shaped boxes in the temple courts. The louder the coins clanged, the more attention the giver received. Jesus said, "So whenever you give to the poor, don't sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do... to be applauded by people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward."

GoAllIn.tv Kingdom Culture

All In with Jordan Easley

A Heart that Honors God

Kingdom Culture | Part 8 | Matthew 6:1-4

NOTES Giving for show glorifies us, not God. Jesus calls us to examine our motives: are we giving for gloating or giving for glory? Kingdom giving is about honoring God quietly, not performing for others. 3. The Command: Give in Secret Jesus continued, "But when you give to the poor, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret." Would you still give if no one knew? Everything we have belongs to God: our money, possessions, and resources. True generosity recognizes God as the owner and ourselves as stewards. Giving secretly, sacrificially, cheerfully, and for God's Kingdom, not our reputation, reflects a heart that honors Him. 4. The Compensation: God Sees and Rewards Jesus promised, "And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." What's given in humility will be honored in eternity. If your actions look holy but your heart is far from God, you'll forgo the blessings He intends for you. Living for an audience of many brings temporary applause; living for an audience of One brings eternal reward.

GoAllIn.tv Kingdom Culture

All In with Jordan Easley

A Heart that Honors God

Kingdom Culture | Part 8 | Matthew 6:1-4

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. What are some examples today of "giving to be seen," and how can we guard our motives against this?
- 2. How does understanding that everything belongs to God change your approach to generosity and giving?

3.	What does it mean for you personally to live for "an audience of One" instead of the applause of many?

GoAllIn.tv Kingdom Culture