

The Heart Behind the Gift

Matthew 6:1-4, 6:19-24

October 12, 2025

Matthew 6:1–4 (ESV)

¹ “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.”

- Jesus is addressing the motive — don’t give for **applause**, give for **God’s approval**.
- “Don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing” — give **humbly and privately**.
- Many people want to be **seen by others** because they want to feel **valuable**.
- But it should be enough that **God notices you**.
- Your value isn’t found in **what you have**, but in **who you are in Christ**.

If we give for **recognition**, we might get **earthly applause**, but we’ll miss our **heavenly reward**. Which kingdom are you building? God or self?

Jesus shows us — don’t chase **praises from people**, chase the **heart of faith**.

Matthew 6:19–24 (ESV)

¹⁹ “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ²² The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³ but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! ²⁴ No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

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“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

So what keeps us from giving freely and faithfully?

A. Insecurity

- God wants to pull out that **giving heart** that’s been buried by fear or insecurity.
- Many people say, “I’ll give when I have more.”
- But that’s giving out of **wealth**, not **faith**.
- When you give in faith — even when it’s small — it **moves God’s heart**.

So, what are you chasing today?

- The god of **money**?
- The god of **wealth**?
- The god of **greed**?
- The god of **obsession**?
- Or are trusting in God?

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.” — *Matthew 6:24 (ESV)*

- Don’t give out of **insecurity** — give out of **security in God**.

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“And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” — *Matthew 6:4 (ESV)*

- Give from the **heart**.
- Give in **faith**.
- Give for **God’s glory**.