



Giving with Excellence: The Discipline of Quiet Generosity
March Theme: Righteousness that Goes Deeper
Matthew 6:2-4

CENTRAL IDEA

True Christian generosity seeks God's approval rather than human recognition; therefore, believers should practice disciplined, quiet giving that reflects a sincere heart devoted to God.

INTRODUCTION

- In [Matthew 6:2–4](#), Jesus warns against giving in order to receive praise from others.
- In the first century, some religious leaders publicly announce their charitable acts to gain honor among people.
- Jesus calls His disciples to a higher standard, giving that is sincere, humble, and directed toward pleasing God.
- Generosity is a vital discipline in the Christian life.
- Yet the question is not simply *whether* we give, but *how* we give and *why* we give.

I. Excellent Giving Begins with the Right Motive

Matthew 6:1–2 “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. “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.

- Jesus condemns giving that is motivated by recognition rather than compassion.
- The word *hypocrite* refers to an actor, someone performing for an audience.
- God is not impressed with the size of the gift if the motive is self-glorification.

2 Corinthians 9:6–7 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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

Practical Acts of Faith

- Examine your motives before giving: Am I seeking God's approval or people's praise?
- Develop a habit of prayer before charitable acts.
- Focus on the impact of your giving rather than recognition.

II. EXCELLENT GIVING REFLECTS A HUMBLE AND DISCREET SPIRIT

Matthew 6:3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

- Jesus uses vivid imagery to emphasize discretion.
- The point is not secrecy for secrecy's sake, but humility in our generosity.
- The most powerful generosity is often the quietest.

Proverbs 22:9 Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor.

Galatians 6:9–10 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Practical Acts of Faith

- Quietly assist someone in need without publicizing it.
- Set aside a portion of income for charitable acts beyond the weekly offering.
- Look for unnoticed needs in your congregation or community.

III. EXCELLENT GIVING TRUSTS GOD FOR THE TRUE REWARD

Matthew 6:3–4 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

- God notices what others overlook.
- The Christian's motivation is not applause but the assurance that God sees and values faithful generosity.
- Our reward may come in spiritual blessings, eternal rewards, or the joy of knowing we honored God.

Hebrews 6:10 For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do.

1 Timothy 6:17–19 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

Practical Acts of Faith

- Trust God to provide as you give generously.
- Teach your children or younger believers the discipline of giving.

CONCLUSION

- Jesus teaches that the excellence of our giving is not measured by visibility but by sincerity.
- The world celebrates generosity that is seen and applauded, but God honors generosity that is humble and faithful.
- Let us therefore commit ourselves to giving with excellence, not for recognition, but for righteousness, not for applause, but for God’s approval.

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“The churches of Christ greet you”
Rom. 16:16

Hebrews 4:12

THE HOLY BIBLE

2 Tim. 2:15, 3:16-17

HEAR
Rom. 10:17

BELIEVE
Jn. 3:16

REPENT
Lk. 13:3

CONFESS
Rom. 10:9

IMMERSED/ADDED
Acts 2:36-47, 22:16
FORGIVEN/SAVED

FAITHFUL
Rev. 2:10
Remain Saved
Till the end
Phil. 2:12

“See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be immersed?”
Acts 8:36
“water immersion now saves us by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” 1 Pt. 3:21

How Jesus commands us to be forgiven of sins and added to His kingdom.