

Real Giving

Matthew 6:1-4

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. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.¹

Practice public worship, not worship for publicity (1)

When you give (2a) . . .

. . . Don't schedule a press conference (2b)

. . . Don't congratulate yourself (3-4a)

. . . Let God be your accountant (4b)

Principles of giving²

- Giving from the heart is investing with God (Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6).
- Genuine giving is to be sacrificial (2 Samuel 24:24; Mark 12:41-44).
- Responsibility for giving has no relationship to how much a person has (Luke 16:10).
- Material giving correlates to spiritual blessings (Luke 16:11-12).
- Giving is to be personally determined (2 Corinthians 9:7).
- We are to give in response to need (read Acts).

¹ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*. Wheaton : Standard Bible Society, 2001

² Adapted from MacArthur, John: *Matthew*. Chicago : Moody Press, 1989, S. 351