

Sermon On The Mount - Part 7 "Giving In Secret" Mike Higley/Lead Pastor August 4, 2019 Key Passage: Matthew 6:1-4 (NIV)

As a believer, if your life is really rooted and grounded in Jesus Christ and his Word, and it's motivated by who he is and what he has done for you—it will transform you and it will transform us as a congregation into generous people.

Generosity is something He is. God is generous.

God actually created us to be generous and to display the glory of his character in our own generosity toward <u>HIM</u>, toward each other, toward the <u>WORLD</u>, toward nature, toward <u>EVERYTHING</u>.

The difference between Christian generosity and counterfeit generosity according to Jesus is MOTIVE.

Matt 6:2 "So when you give..."

Jesus is <u>ASSUMING</u> we are already giving money, praying and fasting as Followers.

Matt 6:4b ... Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Jesus is saying the only type of generosity—true generosity that's <u>PLEASING</u> to God—is a generosity that has as its bottom, as its motivation, the <u>REWARD</u> of knowing we have <u>PLEASED</u>, obeyed, and <u>REFLECTED</u> the character of our God through our generosity.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Our generosity must be **MOTIVATED** by the generosity of our God toward us.

