

A Christian's Walk: Not Hypocritical but Authentic.

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I. Jesus shares three disciplines that He <u>expects</u> in our lives.

Jesus doesn't say <u>if</u> you do these things, He says <u>when</u> you do these things. (Matthew 6:2a, 6:3a, 6:5a, 6:6a, 6:7a, 6:16a, 6:17a)

- Giving (Matthew 6:2-4)

Giving (Matthew 6:2-4)Praying (Matthew 6:5-15)

Giving (Matthew 6:2-4)
Praying (Matthew 6:5-15)
Fasting (Matthew 6:16-18)

II. Hypocrites vs. **Disciples** of Jesus. Matthew 6:1-18 NLT

"Watch out! Don't do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others, for you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven.² When you give to someone in need, don't do as the hypocrites do—blowing trumpets in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of charity! I tell you the truth, they have received all the reward they will ever get. ³ But when you give to someone in need, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. ⁴ Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you". ⁵ "When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. ⁶ But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you".

⁷ "When you pray, don't babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. ⁸ Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! ⁹ Pray like this":

Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. ¹⁰ May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today the food we need, ¹² and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. 13 And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.

¹⁴ "If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you.¹⁵ But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins".

¹⁶ "And when you fast, don't make it obvious, as the hypocrites do, for they try to look miserable and disheveled so people will admire them for their fasting. I tell you the truth, that is the only reward they will ever get. ¹⁷ But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. 18 Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in private. And your Father, who sees everything, will reward you".

Showy vs. Secret.

<u>Showy</u> vs. Secret. Self-centered vs. God-centered.

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Showy vs. Secret. Self-centered vs. God-centered. Wrong motives vs. Pure motives. Desires the rewards of man vs. Desires the rewards from God. Unforgiving vs. Forgiving. Pride vs. Humbleness. Obsessed with outward appearance vs. Obsessed with the heart.

Matthew 23:25-28 NLT ²⁵ "What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy-full of greed and self-indulgence! ²⁶ You blind Pharisee! First wash the inside of the cup and the dish, and then the outside will become clean, too".

²⁷ "What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs—beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people's bones and all sorts of impurity.²⁸ Outwardly you look like righteous people, but inwardly your hearts are filled with hypocrisy and lawlessness".

III. So, who are we?

Hypocrites

- They are ostentatious.

Hypocrites

-They are ostentatious.

- They are motivated by vanity and conceit.

Hypocrites

-They are ostentatious.

They are <u>motivated</u> by vanity and conceit.
They are rewarded by <u>men</u>.

Disciples of Jesus.

- They operate in secret.

Disciples of Jesus.

- They operate in secret.

- They are motivated by humility.

Disciples of Jesus.

- They operate in secret.

- They are motivated by humility.

- They are rewarded by God.

Mark 12:41-44 NIV

⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. ⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

