

REAL RIGHTEOUSNESS, PART 1

MATTHEW 6:1-4

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.

Matthew 6:3-4

I. A Serious Admonition

II. A Specific Application

Small Group Application Questions

Getting to Know You

1. Were you ever embarrassed by being caught while showing off? Explain if you care to.

Into the Bible

2. Read Leviticus 27:30-32 about the tithe. If the tithe was required of all faithful Jews, why did the Pharisees assume that giving ostentatious gifts would be important enough to warrant public announcements?

3. How do Christ's instructions in Matthew 6:1-4, that we are studying this week, relate back to his teaching in Matthew 5:19-20?

Application

4. Read 1 Peter 2:12-15. This passage says that our reputation outside the church matters, so we should let those people see our good deeds. How do we live to fulfill this requirement at the same time we keep our good deeds secret?

5. Many passages in the New Testament talk about our giving to God. Read 1 John 3:16-18, Matthew 10:8 and 1 Corinthians 9:7. Besides anonymity, what else should characterize our giving?

For Families

6. Talk with your children about the benefits of sacrificial giving to others and what you as a family can do to give that way.