

KINGDOM LIFE

OUTRAGEOUS HOPE FOR ORDINARY LIFE

“Hope for Us Hypocrites”

Sunday, April 28, 2019

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

A WORSHIP SERIES THROUGH
JESUS' SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Matthew 6

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



⁵ “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶ “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.



“practicing your righteousness”

2 Corinthians 5:14

For the love of Christ controls (“compels”) us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵ and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

I have been
sacrificially
loved

I have
irrevocable
love & value

I have been
divinely
empowered

“Because of”
not
“so that”



“practicing your righteousness”

Giving

Giving our Time, Talent and Treasure is an act of worship, proclaiming that all I have is a gift from God and my hope is solely in Him.

Praying

Prayer is the deep relational weaving of our hearts with God's (more on this next week when we walk through the Lord's Prayer)

Fasting

Refraining from This Kingdom's means of satisfaction so that, when my stomach growls, I am reminded of my Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness and Jesus as the Bread of Life.



“in order to be seen”

When Doing Right...is Wrong



Hypocrisy:

“Actor” – the one behind the mask
When your insides don’t match your outsides



“in order to be seen”

How We Do It

Let my spiritual resume “leak out”

- “This morning during my devotional....”
- “When I gave ____ to the building fund...”
- “I gave up pride for lent...it really wasn’t that hard.”



“in order to be seen”

Why We Do It.
What “reward” am I trying to get?

From Others

Respect and Reverence

“Look what I did,
respect me”

From God

Affirmation and Blessing

“I did this for you,
now you ‘owe me’”

Either way, we are trying to build our Personal Kingdoms
We feel insecure and need Value-Validation
We are Forgetting the Value Jesus has already heaped upon us

“in order to be seen”

Matthew 23

²⁷ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people’s bones and all uncleanness. ²⁸ So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

Mark 7:6

And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,
““This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me...”



“And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”
(this phrase is repeated word for word three times in our passage)

Matthew 20:26-28

It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,²⁷ and whoever would be first among you must be your slave,²⁸ even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Philippians 3:8b-9

...in order that I may gain Christ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith



“And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”
(this phrase is repeated word for word three times in our passage)

We are called to Love God and Others
BECAUSE we've been rewarded
Not in order to be rewarded

We are called to **Live** Righteously
BECAUSE
We've Been **Made** Righteous



“And your Father who sees in secret will reward you (“openly”).”
(this phrase is repeated word for word three times in our passage)

Luke 12:2

Nothing is covered up that will not be revealed,
or hidden that will not be known.

Our Sin and Brokenness:

Which is covered by Christ.

Our Faith and Acts of Love:

When we love selflessly, we are
living Heaven-Ward Now. Our
Reward is HIM and HIS
Righteousness, and He will
openly proclaim us as His own.



“And your Father who sees in secret will reward you (“openly”).”
(this phrase is repeated word for word three times in our passage)

Philippians 3:16
Only let us hold true to
what we have attained.

Hebrews 10:14
For by a single offering he has perfected
for all time those who are being sanctified.

- 1) Be perpetually transformed on your “insides”:
 - You ARE Valuable In Christ
 - You ARE FREE from value-begging
- 2) Live up to what you’ve already obtained.

