

## **Jesus on Giving**

Matthew 6:1-4 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. 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. But when you give to someone in need, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.

### **Note what he said**

1. There’s a wrong motive and a wrong way to give to those in need.
  - A. Wrong motive – to be noticed by others
  - B. Wrong way – making sure others know
2. There’s a right way and a right motive to give to those in need.
  - A. The right way – secretly (as much as possible)
  - B. The right motive – to be noticed by God the Father

### **A New Point of View**

Most appeals for giving attempt to stir up painful emotions. They seek to make you feel guilty, ashamed, sad or some combination of these feelings. Why? Because they want to pry your fingers open so you will part with some of your stuff. But, if you are a follower of Jesus then your generosity grows as your attitude about money shifts from ‘mine’ to ‘his.’ Think about it which would be easier for you? What if I said to you, “This family needs \$300 for groceries will you help them?” Or what if I said, “Here’s \$300 please give it to that family over there”? Which would be easier to do? Giving the \$300 from my wallet right? Everything you have belongs to God. You are managing it for him. Giving to help others is one of his stated rules for taking care of his stuff.

### **Sermon in a Sentence:**

It’s easy to give away someone else’s stuff.