



Lights, Camera, Action?
Series: *The Sermon On The Mount*, #9
Matthew 6:1-8
Pastor Lyle L. Wahl
July 18, 2021

Theme: **Radical Righteousness Is Never A Performance.**

The Principle.

1. Positive: righteousness *is* to be displayed publicly. (1; see also 5:16; Ephesians 2:10)
2. Negative: righteousness is *not* to be displayed for impressing others. (1-2)

The Principle Applied To Giving.

1. The principle of giving to help the needy.
(2; see also Leviticus 25:35-37; Deuteronomy 15:7-11; Psalm 41:1-3; 112:9;
Acts 3:2-10; 10:1-2, 4, 31; 24:17)
2. The practice of the scribes and Pharisees.
3. Two practical warnings. (2-4; see also Acts 4:34-37; 5:1-11; 2 Corinthians 8:5; 9:7)

The Principle Applied To Praying.

1. Two critical warnings.
(5-7; see also 5:10; Ecclesiastes 5:1-5; Matthew 26:36-44; 2 Corinthians 12:8;
Ephesians 1:15-16)
2. Two practical instructions. (6, 8; see also Romans 8:26)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. Radical Righteousness is never a performance. Take a candid and comprehensive look at yourself. List any and all of the right things you do primarily, or in part, to be noticed by others. Include the right things you do from any motivation other than expressing your praise, worship and service to God. Begin to deal with each of these today.

Tuesday. What is the reward for performance righteousness, according to Matthew 6:1, 2, 5? Look at your list from yesterday—this reward applies to all those things!

Wednesday. What is Jesus' point about the left hand not knowing what the right hand is doing (Matthew 6:3-4)? Write out your understanding of this truth. Evaluate your giving, time, service, and possessions in light of this truth.

Thursday. True prayer is not a performance. While there are some differences between public and private prayer and some warnings to pray with care (e.g., see verse 7), in the final analysis your thoughts are immeasurably more important than the words and forms used to express them. Prayer is communication with God. It is not trying to impress Him or others.

Friday – Saturday. On Sunday we plan to move on to what is often called The Lord's Prayer, in 6:9-15. Read these verses in preparation. Begin to think about the place, importance and meaning of this model prayer.