

# Heart over Hype

Matt 6:1-15

# Call to the Word

## Mat 6:6

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“...when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.”

# Call to the Word

## Mat 6:17-18

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...and when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.”



# Introduction

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Big idea: In a world obsessed with visibility and validation, Jesus calls us to the quiet path of authentic devotion—where the only applause that matters comes from the Father who sees in secret.

# Matt 6:1

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God is not impressed by spiritual performances meant to win applause.

Jesus is after authenticity, not attention.

## Matt 6:2-4

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Jesus is shifting the focus from public performance to private sincerity. Because in the kingdom of God, it's not about how loud the trumpet sounds—it's about who you're giving for.

(Luke 21:1–4)

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“Giving out of your need means your heart is more concerned with obedience than security—more focused on honoring God than holding onto what’s safe.”

(Luke 21:1–4)

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## The Kind of Giving that...

- Comes from trust in God's provision, not comfort in your own abundance.
- Reflects sacrifice, not convenience.
- Reveals faith, not just financial ability.



## Matt 6:2

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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.

# Matt 6:5-8

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Jesus wasn't against prayer in public; He was against prayer for public approval.

Real prayer is relational, humble, and unseen by others—but heard by God.

# Matt 6:5-8

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Prayer is not transactional... Rather, prayer is relational... the term “Father” is deeply intimate and personal—and it would have been surprising, even startling, to Jesus’ original audience.

# Matt 6:5-8

Vain Repetitions – magic-like  
repetition to manipulate gods

1Ki 18:26

# Matt 6:5-8

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What Jesus is warning against -  
prayers that are empty rituals,  
recited without sincerity or genuine  
connection

*“All lips and no mind or heart.” Guzik*

# Matt 6:9-13

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## Six Key Areas of Focus

- **Piety**
- Purpose
- Provision
- Pardon
- Protection
- Perspective

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# Matt 6:9-13

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Contrast: the Pharisees made prayer all about performance—about being seen, sounding spiritual, looking the part. But Jesus? He brings it back to relationship.

Honest, humble, personal connection  
with the Father.

1Ch 29:11

# Matt 6:14-15

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Jesus is saying, “If you want to walk in the freedom and grace I offer, you’ve got to be willing to extend that same grace to others.”

Forgiven people forgive. Not because it’s easy—but because it’s how healing happens

## Matt 6:14-15

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Because a life that looks holy on the outside but refuses to forgive on the inside? That's not righteousness—that's religion without love. And that's not what the kingdom is about. "You can't truly receive grace... and then refuse to give it."

# Matt 6:14-15

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Spiritual hypocrisy is acting religious on the outside but resisting transformation on the inside.

A heart may have outward religion but lack inward transformation.

# Matt 6:14-15

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Why is it so hard to forgive?

- We're still hurting.
- We want them to feel it.
- We confuse forgiveness with reconciliation.

# Matt 6:14-15

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Why is it so hard to forgive?

- Some people don't forgive because they've never truly received grace
- Unforgiveness feels like power—but it's actually bondage.

# Matt 6:14-15

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Forgiving is trusting God with what we can't fix—and choosing to live unchained by bitterness.

# Matt 6:14-15

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*“To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you.” – C.S. Lewis*

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