

Week 1 - Hypocrisy

It's human nature. We like to be seen. We enjoy applause. BUT, it's not how God calls us to live. Resist the temptation to do your good deeds IN ORDER to be seen by others. God sees you – let that be enough.

## Scripture:

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. Matthew 6:1

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. Matthew 6:3-4

Whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father. Colossians 3:17

## Ice Breaker and Intro Questions:

- 1. As the weather improves, what is one thing you are looking forward to this spring or summer?
- 2. What resonated with you from Sunday's service? (Scripture, Song, Message, etc.)

## **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. Eddie shared, "hypocrisy is when our faith is a performance, not a passion." How have you seen this to be true in your life? How does this personally convict you?
- 2. Read Matthew 6:1 together as a group. What about this challenges or comforts you?
- 3. Read Matthew 6:3-4 quietly by yourself, take a moment to ask God what you can learn from this passage. Then spend some time sharing what you learned together as a group.
- 4. Eddie challenged us to practice a "secret life" this week specifically with generosity, prayer, and fasting. You don't need to share with your group exactly what you plan to do, but what about this challenge excites you or challenges you?
- 5. What are some practical barriers you've faced when trying to practice generosity, prayer or fasting? Can you encourage one another with your own struggles to follow Jesus in these ways?
- 6. Close your time together by having one person read Colossians 3:17 aloud for the group. Spend a moment of quiet prayer on your own and then close in prayer together.

## This Week:

• Practice one of the things Jesus mentioned - generosity, prayer, or fasting - but do it secretly. Spend some time before and after talking to God about it. Notice where you struggle, as well as where you experience connection with God. What do you sense God doing within you as you practice these things without announcing or sharing it?