

- Philosophy Club Week 15, Who Are You When No One's Looking?
- PHILOSOPHER: Søren Kierkegaard (1813–1855)

Kierkegaard was a Christian philosopher from Denmark who cared deeply about what it means to live honestly before God. He said that what matters most is not what people think of you but who you are when you are alone with God. He warned about living for the crowd and taught that a pure heart is one that wants one thing: to love and follow God.

"Purity of heart is to will one thing." "The crowd is untruth."

JESUS TAUGHT

Jesus said not to show off your faith. He cared more about the real you than how you appear to others. He gave examples about giving, praying, and fasting in secret so that only God sees. The goal is not attention but closeness with God.

Matthew 6:1

"Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven."

BIG IDEAS

God cares about your heart

It is easy to do good things so people will like us. Jesus says that what really matters is doing those things out of love for God, not to impress others.

You do not need to perform

Your worth does not come from looking spiritual. You do not need to act a certain way for others. What matters is being honest with God.

REAL LIFE EXAMPLES

You give money to help someone at school

What some kids might do: Tell the class to look generous.

What Jesus says: Help quietly and let God see. That way it is about love, not praise.

You decide to give something up

What people might do: Complain so others know they are fasting or being good.

What Jesus says: Keep it between you and God. Smile, act normal, and trust that He sees.

••• LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

Why do people like to be seen doing good things?

What does it feel like when others notice and say "good job"? Why do you think we want that?

Can you think of a time you did something kind without anyone knowing?

What happened? How did it feel different than doing it for praise?

FINAL THOUGHT

Jesus is not asking us to stop doing good things. He is asking us to do them for the right reason. Not for the crowd, not for likes or applause, but to grow in love and honesty with God. That is the kind of life that changes us from the inside out.

WATCH IT AGAIN

Scan the QR code below to rewatch this week's video and reflect on what stuck with you.

