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## "Audience of ONE" (The Mount Series - Ep. III)

"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." **Matthew 6:1**

Jesus is warning people against performing righteous acts like **giving, praying** or **fasting** into a spectacle or a show.

Authentic faith isn't something you manufacture, it's something the **Holy Spirit** produces.

"The Sermon on the Mount is the life we live when **The Spirit** is controlling us." **-Billy Graham**

"7 But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, **the \_\_\_\_\_** won't come. If I do go away, then **I will send Him to you.** 8 And when He comes, He will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. 9 The world's sin is that it refuses to believe in Me. 10 **Righteousness is available** because I go to the Father, and you will see Me no more." **John 16:7-10** (NLT)

After Jesus warns His followers about practicing this new Kingdom life just to be seen by others in **Matthew 6:1**, He gives us **three mirrors** of authentic Spirit-empowered faith.

- \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 2-4)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 5-15)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 16-18)

### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ - Without Seeking Recognition.

"2 So **when you give** to the needy, **do not announce it** with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honoured by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 3 But **when you give** to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be **in secret**. Then **your Father**, who **sees** what is done **in secret**, will **reward** you." **Matthew 6:2-4**

When the Holy Spirit changes your heart: You don't give to be seen. You give because you've been **changed**.

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### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ - Guided By His Spirit.

"5 And when you pray, do not be like the **hypocrites**, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 6 But **when you pray**, go into your room, close the door and **pray to your Father**, who is unseen. Then your Father, **who sees** what is done **in secret**, will **reward** you." **Matthew 6:5-6**

"And the **Holy Spirit helps** us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But **the Holy Spirit prays for us** with groanings that cannot be expressed in words." **Romans 8:26** (NLT)

Even when you don't know what to say - the **Holy Spirit** is helping you pray His perfect will.

"...**Our Father** in heaven, **hallowed** be **Your name**, 10 **Your Kingdom come**, **Your will be done**, on **earth** as it is in **heaven**." **Matthew 6:9-10**

Every time we pray the **Lord's Prayer**, we're inviting God through His Spirit to come and **disrupt** our priorities with His Kingdom. His way of doing and being right, not mine.

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ - Only To Be Seen By Him.

"17 But **when you fast**, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18 so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but **only to your Father**, who is unseen; and **your Father**, who **sees** what is done **in secret**, will **reward** you." **Matthew 6:17-18**

Fasting becomes more than a discipline. It becomes a **response**. "I want more of You Lord!" And that **desire** within us, that's the Holy Spirit at work.

"We live not for an audience, but for an **audience of ONE!**"  
**-Steven MacDonald**

"God doesn't love us because we are good—He makes us good because **He loves us.**" **-CS Lewis**

This is not about being more disciplined, it's about being more **surrendered**.

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• **Giving** (vv. 2-4)

• **Prayer** (vv. 5-15)

• **Fasting** (vv. 16-18)

### 1. **Give Generously - Without Seeking Recognition.**

"2 So **when you give** to the needy, **do not announce it** with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honoured by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 3 But **when you give** to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be **in secret**. Then **your Father**, who **sees** what is done **in secret**, will **reward** you." **Matthew 6:2-4**

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2. **Pray Intimately - Guided By His Spirit.**

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Every time we pray the **Lord's Prayer**, we're inviting God through His Spirit to come and **disrupt** our priorities with His Kingdom. His way of doing and being right, not mine.

### 3. **Fast Humbly - Only To Be Seen By Him.**

"17 But **when you fast**, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18 so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but **only to your Father**, who is unseen; and **your Father**, who **sees** what is done **in secret**, will **reward** you." **Matthew 6:17-18**

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