

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT:

1. Have you ever been embarrassed on camera? What happened? Did it make you self-conscious about ever being on camera again? Are you aware of your behavior changing when people are watching you? What happens?
2. Read Acts 4:32-5:11. What was Barnabas' motivation for giving to the church? What was the motivation of Ananias and Sapphira?
3. Read Matthew 5:14-16. Are we told to hide our light or shine it? What is the purpose of the light we shine (v16)? How do you reconcile this passage with Matthew 6:1-4?
4. How does the fact that the living out of our faith happens in front of other people affect what we do? How can we minimize that in terms of our giving?
5. Why do churches always receive large year-end gifts? If you were offered naming rights to a building addition for making a large donation, what would you do? What motives are at play in each of these situations?
6. Keeping something hidden from others (v2) is one thing – keeping it hidden from ourselves (v3) is another. How do we avoid self-awareness in our giving?
7. “I like having my giving come automatically out of my bank account. That way, not only am I keeping it hidden from others, I'm unaware of it myself.” Does automatic giving help us live out Mt 6:1-4?
8. What reward do people get when they give to be seen by others (v2)? What reward do we anticipate receiving from the Father (v4)? Is it wrong to look forward to a reward from the Father?