Kingdom Come Secret Service

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

<u>Introduction</u>

1. When you serve others or do something good for others, do you find it hard to do it "in secret"? Are you sometimes driven by the desire to be seen by others?

<u>Understanding</u>

- 2. Read Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18.
 - a. What did Jesus mean when he said, "Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others"?
 - b. Discuss the specific examples mentioned in the passage (give to the needy, prayer, fasting).
- 3. Jesus referred to the people in the passage as hypocrites, which can also be interpreted as "actors". Why would Jesus describe these people that way?
- 4. Re-read Matthew 6:1-6. 16-18
 - a. Take time now to discuss what Jesus says about how to give to the needy, pray, and fast **in secret**.
- 5. Read Matthew 5:16.
 - a. How does this verse fit in with this week's sermon and practicing righteousness?
- 6. How does God's rewards go hand in hand with viewing God as our father?

Application

7. How will what you've learned from this week's sermon and small group time affect how you serve others going forward? Discuss together and then don't forget Pastor Dave's "Secret Service" challenge this week!