Your Secret Faith Life | Week 3

Introduction

God wants an intimate relationship with you. Like in all truly close relationships some things are kept just between the two persons involved. The same is true with God. Secrecy is a practice He gives us to double-check our motives. Some things are to remain just between you and Him. This increases intimacy and brings purity to our worship

Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2 (NIV)

Conversation Starters (15 minutes)

- 1. What's a small habit or routine you treasure but rarely talk about with others?
- 2. Who do you have "inside jokes" with?

Sermon Notes Review (15 minutes)

What caught your attention, challenged, or impacted you from this weekend's message?

Watch the Video (5 minutes)

Prepare to watch the video by opening your Bible to Matthew 6:3-4

Group Discussion (40 minutes)

- 1. What are some ideas of things you can begin to practice in the realm of secrecy?
- 2. What benefits do you think happen by doing a good deed in secret?
- 3. Have you ever experienced God's presence in a quiet or private moment? What was that like? How can you create more space for those experiences?
- 4. This past weekend, Chad talked about "approval addiction." Read <u>Galatians 1:10</u> and <u>Proverbs 29:25</u>.
 - In what ways are you tempted to seek approval from others? How does this impact your relationship with God?
 - Share a time when you chose God's approval over people's approval. What was the outcome?
- 5. What is one small, intentional step you can take this week to deepen your private relationship with God?

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Prayer (10 minutes)

Pray for the steps the group shared in Question #5. Have someone close the group with this simple prayer: "God, give us the wisdom to know the right things to do and the courage to do them."

Announcements (5 minutes)

• If you have said Yes to Jesus but have never been baptized, then baptism is your next step in following Jesus. We want to invite you to take that step! Our next baptism is on February 22nd and 23rd. Register at baptism.sv.cc.

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