

OVERCOMING SPIRITUAL PRIDE & APATHY

Against the Grain – Part 3 of 8

(A study of the Sermon on the Mount: Matt. 5-7)

Matthew 6:1-4

April 25, 2010

1. We all want to (be noticed) when we do good.

“Watch out! Don’t do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others.” – Matthew 6:1a NLT

“Pride leads to destruction; a proud attitude brings ruin.” – Proverbs 16:18 NCV

“All who make themselves great will be made humble, but all who make themselves humble will be made great.” – Luke 18:14 NCV

2. God is the ultimate (score-keeper) who notices everything.

“Be careful not to do ‘good works’ in front of others. Don’t do them to be seen by others. If you do, your Father in heaven will not reward you.” – Matthew 6:1 NIrV

“Before you know it, the Son of Man will arrive with all the splendor of his Father, accompanied by an army of angels. You’ll get everything you have coming to you, a personal gift. This isn’t pie in the sky by and by.” – Matthew 16:27 Msg

“For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body.” – 2 Corinthians 5:10 NLT

3. Serving and providing for the needy is a strong sign of (spiritual health).

“When you give to someone in need, don’t do as the hypocrites do—blowing trumpets in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of charity. I tell you the truth, they have received all the reward they will ever get. But when you give to someone in need, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing.” – Matthew 6:2-3 NLT

“Generous people will be blessed because they share their food with the poor.” – Proverbs 22:9 NCV

“I am not trying to make life easier for others by making life harder for you. But it is only fair for you to share with them when you have so much, and they have so little.” -- 2 Corinthians 8:13-14 CEV

4. God (rewards) those who bless the poor.

“Your giving should be done in secret. Your Father can see what is done in secret, and he will reward you.” – Matthew 6:4 NCV

“Caring for the poor is lending to the LORD, and you will be well repaid.” – Proverbs 19:17 CEV

“Digging Deeper” Devotional Readings:

Monday:	James 2:1-20
Tuesday:	1 John 3:11-19
Wednesday:	Matthew 25:31-46
Thursday:	Luke 10:30-37
Friday:	Psalm 72:1-19