



Faithfulness and Rewards in Jesus' Teachings



Explore Jesus' teachings on rewards, focusing on unseen faithfulness seen by God, as revealed in the Gospels and Matthew 6:1–6.



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Introduction

Welcome to this 7-day Bible study plan centered on Jesus' profound teachings about rewards. In the Gospels, Jesus consistently points us toward a faith that honors God beyond outward appearances — reminding us that even when our acts of righteousness are unseen by others, they are fully known and deeply valued by God. *This truth offers both comfort and challenge.*

In Matthew 6:1–6, Jesus urges us to practice our faith with sincerity, warning against doing good deeds merely for human approval. Instead, He encourages us to seek the reward that comes from God alone — a reward that transcends earthly recognition.

Throughout these seven days, we will journey through passages from the Gospels that highlight how Jesus taught about rewards, the nature of faithfulness, and the eternal perspective we are called to maintain. Each day, you will find scripture readings, devotional reflections, reflection questions, journaling prompts, and a prayer to help internalize and apply these important lessons.

Let this time deepen your understanding of what it means to live faithfully before God, knowing that every hidden act—every quiet prayer, every unseen sacrifice—is precious in His sight. May it inspire and encourage you to serve with joyful commitment, assured that God sees and honors your faithfulness, even when no one else does.  





Day 1: ✨ The Heart of True Righteousness



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Your Verse

Matthew 6:1–6 NIV – "Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them... your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Colossians 3:23 – "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."*
- *Hebrews 11:6 – "Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."*



Day 1: ✨ The Heart of True Righteousness

Devotional: Seeking God's Hidden Reward

Jesus emphasizes a powerful truth in **Matthew 6:1–6**: our acts of righteousness should not be done for public admiration but as an expression of love and obedience to God. It's easy to fall into the trap of performing good deeds for applause or recognition. Yet, Jesus nudges us to examine our motives: Are we serving to be seen, or to glorify God?

When we pray, give, and fast in secret, God sees and values these acts far more than any human praise could. This doesn't minimize the importance of faithfulness but elevates the reward from God Himself, who knows our hearts perfectly.

Today, reflect on where you might be seeking earthly validation instead of God's approval, and commit to loving God with sincerity. Remember, **our Father sees what is done in secret and promises a reward beyond our understanding.**



Day 1: ✨ The Heart of True Righteousness

Reflect and Apply

1. In what ways have I sought approval for my spiritual actions from others rather than God?

2. How does knowing God sees my hidden faithfulness change the way I serve Him?

3. What can I do to cultivate sincerity in my daily spiritual practices?



Day 1: ✨ The Heart of True Righteousness

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time you felt unnoticed for doing good. How did it affect your faith?

2. List practical ways you can practice righteousness 'in secret' this week.

3. Reflect on the meaning of God's reward for unseen faithfulness in your life.



Day 1: ✨ The Heart of True Righteousness

Prayer for Today

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for seeing all that I do, even the things unnoticed by others. Help me to serve You with a pure heart, seeking only Your approval. Teach me to find contentment and joy in the rewards You provide, both seen and unseen. Strengthen my faith to persevere in quiet obedience and trust that You honor every sincere act. *May my life glorify You above all else.* Amen. 🙏 ✨ ❤️





Day 2: Authentic Prayer Beyond Show



Your Verse

Matthew 6:5–6 NIV – "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."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Luke 18:10–14 – "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."*
- *Psalms 51:6 – "Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place."*



Day 2: 🕊 Authentic Prayer Beyond Show

Devotional: Prayer From the Heart Is Always Heard

Prayer is intended as intimate communication with God, not a public performance. Jesus warns us against praying in a way that seeks attention and praise from others. Instead, He calls us into solitude, where authentic heart-to-heart conversations with God take place.

When we pray in secret, we acknowledge God's unseen presence and depend on Him alone. These prayers, from honest motives, are precious and always heard. Our Father values humility and sincerity over eloquence or volume. Even when prayers seem unnoticed by others, God listens and lovingly responds.

How often do we measure prayer success by others' reactions rather than God's response? This teaching challenges us to cultivate a hidden, constant prayer life that draws us nearer to God's heart. The reward is rich: peace, assurance, and a deepening relationship with Him.



Day 2: 🕊️ Authentic Prayer Beyond Show

Reflect and Apply

1. Do I sometimes pray to be seen or admired by people? How can I change this?

2. What does it mean to you to pray 'in secret' before God?

3. How can a private prayer life transform your faith journey?



Day 2: 🕊️ Authentic Prayer Beyond Show

Journaling Prompts

1. Describe your current prayer life honestly. What could make it more authentic?

2. Write a private prayer to God asking Him to help you pray with a sincere heart.

3. Reflect on a time when private prayer brought you peace or insight.



Day 2: 🕊️ Authentic Prayer Beyond Show

Prayer for Today

Lord, help me to seek You with honesty in my prayers, not to impress others but to connect deeply with You. Teach me the beauty of hidden prayer — a sacred space where You meet me face to heart. Guard my motives and draw me closer to You each day. May my faith grow in these quiet moments. Amen.





Day 3: 🎁 Gifts Given in Secret



Day 3: 🎁 Gifts Given in Secret

Your Verse

Matthew 6:2 NIV – "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets... But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing."

Supporting Scriptures

- *2 Corinthians 9:7 – "God loves a cheerful giver."*
- *Luke 6:35 – "Love your enemies, do good to them... expecting nothing in return."*



Day 3: 📁 Gifts Given in Secret

Devotional: The Joy of Hidden Generosity

Jesus teaches us about generosity as an act not of show, but of love and faithfulness. When we give to those in need, it's tempting to seek recognition or praise. But Jesus says the truest generosity is done quietly, without fanfare, reflecting God's own selfless nature.

Giving in secret protects the heart from pride and centers our motives on serving others and God. This kind of giving brings joy that sustains beyond the moment — it connects us to God's heart for the vulnerable and builds treasure in heaven.

Our worldly culture often rewards visible giving, but Jesus' standard calls us higher. It's not about the amount or the applause but the love behind the gift. The reward from our Heavenly Father is assured when giving flows from a humble, sincere heart.



Day 3: 📁 Gifts Given in Secret

Reflect and Apply

1. Why might Jesus emphasize giving without attracting attention?

2. How does giving in secret protect your heart from pride?

3. In what ways can you cultivate a more generous spirit that honors God privately?



Day 3: 📁 Gifts Given in Secret

Journaling Prompts

1. Recall a time you gave selflessly. How did it affect you?

2. Make a plan to practice secret giving this week and journal the experience.

3. Reflect on what joy means to you in the context of generosity.



Day 3: 📁 Gifts Given in Secret

Prayer for Today

Gracious God, teach me to give with a pure heart and without seeking recognition. Help me to reflect Your generosity by loving others sincerely and quietly. Let my gifts bring blessing and demonstrate faith rather than focusing on applause. May my heart align with Yours, storing treasures in heaven. Amen. 🙏❤️📁





Day 4: Treasures Stored in Heaven



Day 4: 🌿 Treasures Stored in Heaven

Your Verse

Matthew 6:19–21 NIV – "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth... But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven... For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Luke 12:33–34 – "Sell your possessions and give to the poor... For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*
- *1 Timothy 6:17–19 – "Command those who are rich... to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share."*



Day 4: 🌿 Treasures Stored in Heaven

Devotional: Eternal Focus Over Earthly Wealth

Jesus challenges us to evaluate what we truly value. Earthly treasures—money, possessions, status—are temporary and vulnerable to loss or decay. Instead, Jesus encourages us to invest in eternal treasures through acts of faith, love, and obedience.

When we store treasures in heaven, we align our hearts with God's kingdom priorities. This redirection guards us from anxiety and greed, guiding us toward generosity, compassion, and service.

Living with an eternal perspective helps protect our faithfulness from being distracted or deflated by material concerns. It reminds us that every faithful, unseen act participates in God's eternal kingdom and will be honored.

Ask yourself: What treasures am I storing, and where is my heart?



Day 4: 🌿 Treasures Stored in Heaven

Reflect and Apply

1. How does focusing on heavenly treasures change your daily decisions?

2. What earthly things might be distracting or competing for your heart?

3. How can you practically store up treasures in heaven through your actions?



Day 4: 🌿 Treasures Stored in Heaven

Journaling Prompts

1. List the 'treasures' most important to you. Reflect on their permanence.

2. Describe what it means to have your heart aligned with God's kingdom.

3. Write about ways you can invest in eternal treasures this week.



Day 4: 🌿 Treasures Stored in Heaven

Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, help me to fix my eyes on eternal treasures rather than earthly wealth. Teach me to live with a heart devoted to Your kingdom and values. Guide me to generosity, kindness, and faithfulness that honor You. May my actions store up treasures that last forever. Amen. 🙏💎🌟





Day 5: 💡 Light That Shines in Secret



Day 5: 💡 Light That Shines in Secret

Your Verse

Matthew 5:14-16 NIV - "You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Philippians 2:15 - "...so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation."*
- *1 Peter 2:12 - "Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God."*



Day 5: 💡 Light That Shines in Secret

Devotional: Shining With Integrity

Jesus calls us the light of the world, tasked to reflect God's glory. But how does this align with His teaching on doing deeds in secret? The key is in motives and outcome.

Our good deeds and faithfulness are to be genuine and pure — not done to elevate ourselves but to reveal God's love. Sometimes that light shines quietly, visible only to God, and sometimes it shines publicly to inspire others to glorify God.

Integrity binds both scenarios: what we do in secret aligns with what we do openly. Our goal is to live consistently for God's glory, whether unseen or seen by many.

Strive today to let your inner light of faith shine authentically, fueled by God's unseen presence and love.



Day 5: 💡 Light That Shines in Secret

Reflect and Apply

1. How can you balance doing good in secret and being a visible witness?

2. What does it mean for your light to shine for God's glory, not your own?

3. In what ways can you cultivate integrity between private and public faith?



Day 5: 💡 Light That Shines in Secret

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time your actions reflected God's light in a small or large way.

2. Reflect on areas where your private and public faith might not align.

3. Make a commitment to live with authenticity this week.



Day 5: 💡 Light That Shines in Secret

Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, help me shine Your light with sincerity and integrity, whether in public or secret places. May all that I do point others to You and glorify You above all. Guard my heart from pride, and fill me with a genuine desire to reflect Your love. Amen. ✨ 🕯️ ❤️





Day 6: Reward Awaits the Faithful



Day 6: 🏔️ Reward Awaits the Faithful

Your Verse

Matthew 10:42 NIV - "And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Hebrews 11:24-26 - "...By faith Moses... chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin."*
- *Revelation 22:12 - "Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done."*



Day 6: 🏔️ Reward Awaits the Faithful

Devotional: Faithfulness Honored by God

Jesus assures us that even small acts of kindness done from faith will be **rewarded**. Sometimes we underestimate the impact of our faithfulness or feel discouraged when our deeds appear insignificant.

However, God notices every sincere effort, blessing and rewarding faithfulness according to His perfect justice. This promise sustains us amid trials and hidden work, knowing no good act is overlooked.

Consider Moses' faith and the countless unknown servants throughout history whose quiet obedience shaped God's purposes. Jesus reminds us that faithful service, no matter how small, is eternal treasure.

Be encouraged today: your faithfulness matters deeply to God and will be honored.



Day 6: 🏠 Reward Awaits the Faithful

Reflect and Apply

1. How does knowing God rewards even small acts of faith impact your motivation?

2. What faithful acts have you done that may seem unseen now?

3. How can you encourage others to persevere in faithfulness?



Day 6: 🏡 Reward Awaits the Faithful

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a small act of kindness that meant a lot to you or someone else.

2. Reflect on areas where you feel unnoticed but are called to faithfulness.

3. Pray and write about trusting God's reward even when it's not visible.



Day 6: 🏔️ Reward Awaits the Faithful

Prayer for Today

Faithful Father, thank You for seeing every act of love and faithfulness I offer, no matter how small. Strengthen me to persevere in doing good, even when unnoticed. Help me trust Your promise of reward and live with hope and joy. May my service glorify You always. Amen. 🙌❤️✨





Day 7: 🌈 Living for God's Glory Alone



Day 7: 🌈 Living for God's Glory Alone

Your Verse

John 5:44 NIV – "How can you believe since you accept glory from one another but do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?"

Supporting Scriptures

- *Galatians 1:10 – "Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people?"*
- *1 Corinthians 10:31 – "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."*



Day 7: 🌈 Living for God's Glory Alone

Devotional: A Life Fully Dedicated to God

Jesus calls us to examine whose approval we seek. Accepting praise from others can seem rewarding but falls short of the true reward that God offers.

Ultimately, our highest calling is to live for God's glory alone. Every choice, action, and intention echoes our devotion and identity as His followers.

It is a daily challenge to resist human approval and embrace God's perspective, especially when faithfulness is quiet or costly.

As you close this study, remember that a life dedicated to God — both in private and public — brings lasting joy and eternal reward.



Day 7:  Living for God's Glory Alone

Reflect and Apply

1. Whose approval do you find yourself seeking the most?

2. Where can you shift your focus toward glorifying God rather than people?

3. What steps will you take to live authentically for God's glory alone?



Day 7:  Living for God's Glory Alone

Journaling Prompts

1. Reflect on situations where you struggled to prioritize God's approval.

2. Write a commitment statement to seek God's glory in all you do.

3. Journal ways you can remind yourself daily of living for God's praise.



Day 7: 🌈 Living for God's Glory Alone

Prayer for Today

Almighty God, help me to seek Your approval above all else. May my heart be set on glorifying You in both secret and in the light. Give me courage to walk faithfully, regardless of others' opinions, and joy in Your eternal reward. I dedicate my life to You alone. Amen. 🙏 ✨ 🏰





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