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## INTRODUCTION

Words and actions can easily take on twisted motives. The action in itself can be innocent but the purpose for which it is done may betray a deeper issue of the heart.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who do you feel the most pressure to please? Is there someone that remains unimpressed no matter how much you do?
2. What are some reasons people often try so hard to impress others?

Read Matthew 6:1-18

3. What warning does Jesus give to those who live a particular lifestyle in order to gain public approval? (See also Matthew 23:1-12)
4. Last week Derek spoke about being salt and light from Matthew 5:13-16; this week, Derek spoke of not showing off your faith. How do you balance the public and private aspects of faith? (See James 2:18)
5. When do you most often find yourself thinking of prayer or praying?
6. Which elements of the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 resonate with you most?
7. Prayer in its simplest form is a confession of our need for God. How might Matthew 6:9-10 help recalibrate your motives?
8. How can you develop a heart that serves God and others with pure motives? (Consider James 4:1-3 and David's prayer in Psalm 51)

## MOVING FORWARD

Intentions and motives can be sneaky. This week as you prepare for each day, pray that God would work through your life to bless others and bring him glory. Make extra efforts this week to serve God in secret through prayer, giving and sacrifice.