



Doing Good To Be Seen

by Mark Hixson

October
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As you are fully aware, West Side has different ministries that often make social media posts about their gatherings and services they do in the community. It's always a bit awkward to make these types of posts because it's hard to discern how the reader will receive the intent of the message. The boasting of good deeds can be misunderstood without knowing the intent of the heart. Consider the following.

Jesus cautions the crowd, in Matthew 6, not to let your good deeds be seen by others simply for accolades. He said that our God will have no reward for such activities. He went further and placed those who do such public boasting in the same category as the hypocrites. By doing good and telling the world you have received any reward you might have anticipated here on earth. He went along and encouraged the listeners to do these in secret so that only God will know what was done.

6 *"Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven".*

2 *"So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you". (Matthew 6)*

As Christ followers, we want people to know that anything done to help humanity, God should receive the glory and not man.

There is another side of this conversation as well. Earlier, in this same message, Jesus tells the crowd that they are the salt and light of the world. The illustration he uses is that when using a light we don't cover it up but let it shine as far as the eye can see. Specifically, he encouraged them to be seen doing their good deeds. A bit of a contrast right?

In Matthew 5

13 *"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot".*

14 *"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven".*

Our message

We should all be doing good positive work for God. Some of that work should be seen by those around us, while some of our works should be done quietly and without expectations of praise. Being a light we must be seen, but the point in being seen is so that others might glorify God in heaven.

Friends, whenever you see a post on social media about one of our ministries doing good please know the intent of the heart has two major points: 1. Thank the Lord that his people are still at work and darkness cannot overcome it. 2. Be encouraged to go and do likewise.

DIOS LE BENDIGA! (God Bless You!)

by Aris Ortiz

Blessings my West Side Family!

Today (well, depending on what day you will read this segment) but today Sunday, is the beginning of a new week. By God's mercy, all of us that we are able to see another day, have been blessed to have that. So many did not have another day and have departed from this life; they are now on the other side of the river, and the reality is that our turn will come when we will be leaving this life and entering eternal life. God has made sure that we will be aware of that, and he has left for us the "Book" the Bible, that we can learn the truth and the way to get there. For so many, they hear the messages but don't open their heart, for others, they don't want to hear the message. For so many, their way of life is ok, but according to God's Way, their end will be death. That's why God is so patient not wanting for anyone to be lost, but to be saved. And if we are in this life, it is because he is giving us the time to be right with him and to do with our life, everything to glorify his Name! God has blessed us, my West Side Family, to bless others everyday of the days that God is giving us to live. Let's be someone's blessings!!

Gathering Times

Sunday Morning 10 Am Worship
& Kids for Christ
ages 1yr-5th grade

In- Person Adult/Teen Bible Study
Wednesdays 6:30pm - Room 3 & Cornerstone

Friendship Cafe and Conversational Christianity
Sunday Mornings at 8:45

In- person Adult Bible Study
Sunday Mornings at 9am

West Side News

Friends & Family Day 2021 is coming up next week!

We will meet at Old Post Park Pavilion # 8

Oct. 10th, 4-6pm

Pulled pork will be provided. Please bring side dishes, desserts and canned drinks.

Please drop your canned drinks or bottled water by the office this week, and we will have them cold and ready for the picnic Sunday!

Baby Shower

Mark your calendars for October 17th!

There will be a baby girl shower in honor of Erin Grice Putman at 2pm at Old Post Park. Erin and Cory are registered at babylist.com

www.babylist.com/baby-erin-putman

Cookbook

It's time to order your copy of the new West Side Delights Cookbook! Order forms are available at the Friendship Cafe as well as the West Side Friends & Family facebook page.

Cookbooks will be here December 5th!

Week of: 9-26-2021

Weekly Giving: \$ 10,477

Attendance

Weekly Budget: \$ 13,820

Sunday AM - 279

YTD Giving: \$ 525,820

Wednesday PM -104

YTD Budget: \$ 538,970

Family Illness and Recovery

Joel Delgado, infant great grandson of Kay Larson, is home from a brief hospitalization. Please keep him in your prayers for health and strength as he grows.

Amy Vanderheiden is recovering at home following recent surgery. Please continue to pray for a rapid and full recovery.

Jonah Vanderheiden is home and recovering following recent hospitalization for bacterial pneumonia and a mild heart attack. Please continue to pray for Jonah's strength and healing, and for his overall improvement.

Sympathy:

We extend our sympathy to Lauren Reed and family in the loss of her brother Wes Honnell. Please also keep his wife Jessica and their 3 children in your prayers in the days and weeks ahead as they navigate through such significant loss. May the peace that passes understanding and the spiritual comfort that only God can provide surround all affected by this tragedy.

OTHER NEWS

Transportation Assistance

Randy Powell has offered to provide transportation to anyone needing assistance in that area, especially for doctor's appointments. He has experience loading wheelchairs and would love to help out if needed. Feel free to reach out to him directly at 479-567-4235, or if you prefer, you can call the office and let your need be known.

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westsidear.org/subscribe

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