



In the Church, we tend to take giving in secret pretty seriously. As we should. Jesus talks about it in today's verse, after all.

"But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

Matthew 6:3-4 ESV

In Matthew 6 Jesus teaches about giving, praying, and fasting in secret. They are imperative commands, telling his hearers to "do it like this." But these commands rest in a key truth: The people who are to give, pray, and fast in secret are the ones who have been doing these things to get street cred and praise from people. They're the ones who've been waltzing around, making a big to-do about how spiritual and generous they are.

Jesus isn't primarily saying everyone should give in secret and never talk about their generosity. After all, sometimes people are inspired by cheerful givers to be more generous. Instead, Jesus is exposing the heart that's powering the kind of giving, praying, and fasting he's talking about in the Sermon on the Mount.

Jesus's point isn't that no one but the Father should know about your generosity and spiritual practices. Instead, you need to watch out if your motive for sharing these things is for applause. And if that's you, it's your heart's only reward.

To give in secret means to seek to honour God alone. In this way, our giving does not become a spiritual lever we can pull to draw attention to ourselves.

Does your heart crave recognition and praise for your giving? Or are you able to give in secret with a heart seeking to honour God?

Today's devotion by Jordan Loftis, author of two bestselling books, Today We Win and The Men With Bare Feet, host of The Bible Better Podcast, and editor of Short Daily Devotions.



Our National Vision

Wherever there is hardship or injustice

Salvos will live, love and fight

Alongside others

To transform Australia one life at time

Time for you to Share

If you have not already shared your experience of how you have experienced God during Covid 19 lockdown and restrictions, then you have one more week to do so. Get your responses in by Friday 10 July.

We want to hear from you about your experience and have some questions for you to answer.

We have made it easy for you to answer these questions with an online survey at the following link... <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VW8TKBG>

You can email your responses to us or write them down and send them in the post. If you do not want your responses published in the newsletter please tell us

How has the lockdown impacted on me personally?

How has it changed my attitude to worship?

What have I found to be the most effective way to worship during this time?

What have I missed the most from not attending the 'meetings'?

When and where have I felt God's presence during this lockdown?

How has my 'engaging' with others changed?

Family Store Volunteers

The manager of West End family store is urgently looking for volunteers so that the store can reopen following required Covid 19 closure.

The store is open Tuesday to Saturday and volunteers would be required for up to 4 hours on those days.

An onsite induction will be conducted so that you are able to volunteer in the store. The activities could involve serving at the front counter, regular cleaning of the store throughout the day as per hygiene and cleaning requirements of QLD government and sorting through donations. You will be supplied personal protective equipment.

Contact Scott on 0416 133 938 if you are able to volunteer any time during the week.

Spiritual Discipline

This week on our website you will find the spiritual discipline of generosity. As we look at what Jesus says in the sermon on the mount about how we are to give, it is important for us to remember the many ways God has been generous to us and to pray that God will help to cultivate a generous spirit in us.

Alpha

We are looking to recommence Alpha which was stopped by Covid 19. If you were a part of a group, you will be contacted by your host about if and how you would like to recommence. There will be necessary changes to how this will operate to ensure safety for all participants.

We are also looking at commencing an Alpha group for people who were not able to join the group in February. This will be offered in two ways – online via zoom or in person. If you would like to be a part of a new group commencing early August please contact karen@thegreens.id.au

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

A new set of envelopes have arrived for those people who use them for their planned giving. Contact will be made to determine how you can receive them before you run out of the existing envelopes. Alternatively, you can email or message Scott to organise picking them up from the hall.



Please remember our members of our faith community in prayer

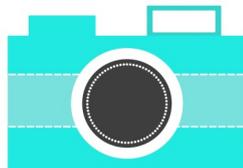
Trevor; Leo; Ashley – looking for work; Jayne; Rodney S.; families travelling during school holidays; teachers to rest and refresh;

Will; Bill & GSA; Jaiden; Lyndon, Christine, Rebekah & Laura; Ray & Desley; Desiree; Margaret

Family Photos

Matt is working on recording an arrangement of the song **“Take my life and let it be”** and as part of the visual presentation, he would like to include photos of our Corps family. The presentation will be used during one of our online meetings. If you are happy for your photo to be included, please send a photo to

matt@videopro.com.au



TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Have you thought about how you can continue to give your tithes and offerings during this time where you are not able to physically place them in the offering bag?

You can make a direct deposit into the Corps Account. Bank Account details are

NAME: The Salvation Army BCT

BSB Number: 034 004

Account Number: 810612



You are invited to attend our online prayer meeting each Monday night at 7pm.

Click on the link below to join in. If you have any problems connecting, don't hesitate to give Scott a call or a text on 0416 133 938

Join Zoom Online Prayer Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9399076901?pwd=eW41YXpWK1J6ZzdiNUhINkNIMkw1Zz09>

Meeting ID: 939 907 6901

Password: 048505

SUNDAY SERVICES

Our weekly sermons and worship service is pre-recorded and available for viewing either from our Corps Facebook page or from our Corps website.

Links for Viewing

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BrisbaneCityTemple>

Or you can follow the link on the

Homepage of the Corps Website: <https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/brisbanecity/>

Thank you for making the
**Red Shield
Appeal
& Digital
Doorknock**
a success!



#RedShieldAppeal



THANKYOU to everyone who shared our digital page or donated or did fundraising for The Red Shield Appeal.

We set a goal of \$10 000 this year and we have exceeded that goal and raised **\$16 558** by midnight on June 30.