



The Hidden Life

February 27, 2022

Reflect + Discuss

- Have you ever been fooled by the outward appearance of something (ex. food, a book, new tech item, etc.) only to be disappointed by its content/quality? What was that experience like?
- Read Matthew 6:1-18. What stands out to you? What questions do you have? How does this passage define righteousness?
- Share about a time when you did the right thing but for the wrong reasons or struggled with mixed motives.
- What is one area of your life where you are putting on a performance (or are tempted to do so?) Why is that? What would change if you focused on being rewarded by God rather than honored by people?
- How has this COVID season affected your relationship with God?
- When do you feel most connected to God – in nature, studying the Word, in prayer, in community with others, in solitude, something else? What step can you take this week to start intentionally building in more moments of connection with God into your daily/weekly rhythms?

Dig Deeper

- Is there a new spiritual practice you'd like to learn? Check out the book [*Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices that Transform Us*](#) by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun as a resource.

Pray

- Pray that the Holy Spirit would guide you in seeking deep transformation and intimacy with God, rather than settling for the praise of people. Ask for wisdom to examine your motivations and correct your priorities in order for you to connect with God better.

Next Steps

- Do something in private this week to connect with God, and don't tell anyone about it. Take time to reflect/journal about the experience – was it difficult not to share with anyone? Did the private nature of this experience affect your motivation? What would it look like to do this regularly?