



Confidence is built in private.

Many are aware of televangelists. We are all encouraged to dig deep (into our pockets) and give for their cause with “financial love.”

But do we truly see God in them?

The system is not limited to those across the airwaves or social media platforms. It could be anyone at the pulpit or even someone in our circle of friends.

Many are convinced that outward signs of giving- physical, emotional, or financial are viewed as more holy, but they never see what is going on internally.

Doesn't the heart determine our true intentions?

1 Chronicles 28:9, “for the Lord searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts.”

It's easy to look good in the public eye. It is also very easy to destroy an entire lifetime of good works with one bad decision.

In the first situation, the general public may glorify you, but God knows your heart.

In the second situation, the general public will chastise you, but God will forgive you.

Acceptance and ridicule from the public, or acceptance and forgiveness from God.

Your choice.

1 Samuel 16:7, “the Lord looks at the heart.”

Is yours soft or hardened?

The Sadducees loved to pray and worship in public for all to see.

But ultimately it made them sad, you see. (pun intended)

As in all things, God has already provided the guidance for all to follow.

Matthew 6:6, “But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.

As part of the Sermon on the Mount, the verse before it (6:5) warns against praying publicly just to be seen. The point is this: prayer between you and God is not a performance.

Private prayer also brings comfort and safety. If you make a mistake, no one can witness it.

No embarrassment.

No ridicule.

No discomfort or reason for doubt.

God knows the mistakes we have made and will make, again and again.

So, what does He do?

He lovingly accepts us and proudly lets us display our love for Him in public.

But wait, I thought it was supposed to be in private.

We don't verbally pontificate, ridicule, or judge others.

We speak by our actions, not our words or volume.

The best way for us to grow confident is to spend time with him...in private.

Hone your skills in one-on-one sessions with the best teacher.

He will equip us with the knowledge and understanding when he sees us fit to possess this level. His best method is to tease us with a basic understanding, which leads us to ask additional questions.

When we ask questions, we are open to receive.

If we wait for Him to bombard us with information, we will be left standing alone and empty.

So open your heart and watch it expand as we are filled with His love, understanding, and desire to live in His world, not the place we occupy right now.

The rock group Loverboy, in 1981, sang "Everybody's Working for the Weekend." In many cases, that is probably true.

20 years later, in 2001, MercyMe sang "I Can Only Imagine," about standing before God in Heaven.

Maybe we don't just get old and physically display our bodies breaking down.

As the body wears out, the heart and mind grow stronger because we have built them as a mighty fortress that no one can see.

If you know it in your mind and feel it in your heart, you will succeed, because God made you for greatness in His eyes.

Society will stand speechless, which is probably the wisest thing it could say.

You will stand in confidence, whether anyone sees it or not.

Vivat Jesus