

LEADER PAGE | SERIES | Best Sermon Ever | WEEK 5 of 11 | Sermon date: June 27, 2021

Discipleship Phrase: His heart, my hands.

<u>Big Idea for Series</u>: Jesus' heart for the kingdom is on full display.

Abiding (grow as a disciple yourself)

As you prayerfully consider the content you'll be working through with your groups this week, ask God to place on your heart areas of your life where you are generous and "why" you are generous as you give; be it through time, money and/or service. The Pharisees gave money in very public forums and in a manner which drew attention to the "what" they were giving. Their "why" was selfish, using their tithe/giving to draw attention to their "generosity" to those around them. Spend some time this week thinking and praying about the different aspects of your life where your outward position/appearance/actions may (or may not) reflect His calling or desire for your heart.

Leading (facilitate your group effectively)

As you prepare for this message review Matthew 6:1-4. Jesus warns us not to do righteous things for the sake of attention or recognition from others. As you lead through group discussion help your group to look inside their hearts and how they are seen outwardly. As Christians, we are to be seen doing good works but our motive is important. Help your group to share openly about their generosity and what ministry areas they are involved in. Why is it important about how we do our good works? It is almost impossible to do spiritual things in front of others without thinking what their opinion is of us as we do those things. Bring the discussion around why it is so important that our hearts stay right in what we do.

Shepherding (know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep)

This week's discussion could reveal some areas in the lives of your group members, and in yourself as well, that may not have been previously considered. It has the potential to be quite convicting as we're seeking to root out areas where we might be acting or pretending to be something or someone we're really not. On the backend of group, be courageous enough to leverage the relational equity you have with others when it's necessary. When a group member needs to hear truth from a trusted friend, speak the truth while keeping it framed in love (see Proverbs 27:6).

Church Announcements (be in the know & share with your group)

Biblical Justice Panel July 14th 6:30-8 PM. This Q&A panel is an opportunity for us to consider what biblical justice means and how God is calling his church to respond to these issues. Join Southeast and guest panelists as they help us explore the topic of justice in God's word. Click here to register!

REMEMBER: "Every group deserves a great leader."



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Welcome/Introductions (creating a relational environment starts here; be friendly & acknowledge everyone)

Open in Prayer (kickoff every group gathering with honoring the Lord)

Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows (choose one that is best for your group this week)

Weekly Vision Checklist (See Flipbook re: announcements, the "why", goal, outreach, guidelines, & branching)

Ask a Hook Question (a thought-provoking question to get the group heading in the right direction) Who is your favorite actor or actress and why?

Recap the Message (ask a couple people to share what stood out to them in this week's message)

Scriptures References (Read scriptures directly from the Bible—it carries its own authority) **Matthew** 6:1-4 (ESV), **Matthew** 5:14-16 (ESV), Matthew 6:33 (ESV)

Implications (takeaways from the message)

- 1. We are called to be generous because we are called to be like God.
- 2. Even our generosity can be used for selfish reasons if we let it.
- 3. Giving in secret isn't a bartering tool to get God's blessing, it is a way to make sure that our hearts are in the right place.
- 4. Our covenant is with God alone. He should be the object of our focus when we give to those in need.

Discussion Questions (going beyond the surface)

- 1. Read Matthew 6:2. Who is Jesus warning us against becoming?
- 2. How much of your outward persona matches your inward heart?
- 3. Where in your life are you not performing for an audience of 1?
- 4. Reflect on the things you are doing and ask God to revel to you why you are doing them. Are they for His glory?

Prayer Requests (record, share, and follow up throughout the week. Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.)

Closing Prayer (ask openly for a volunteer, encourage your people to step outside of their comfort zone regularly)

