

Thornbury Baptist Church  
Matthew Teaching Series

Small Group Discussion Questions

**Talk Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**Talk title:** The Secret Giver

**Passage:** Matthew 6:1-4

**Speaker:** Sally Heath

**Discussion Questions**

At the beginning of Matthew chapter 6 Jesus continues to show the disciples how counter-cultural is life lived in the kingdom of God, starting by looking at 3 acts of piety – giving to the poor, prayer and fasting. Verses 2-4 concentrate on giving to the poor.

- Giving to the poor was written into the very fabric of Jewish life and this teaching was continued by Jesus and his first disciples. Read Acts 4:32-35 to see how the first Christians put this into place. What practical challenges are there to charitable giving for us? How might we overcome these?
- Throughout these verses Jesus emphasises giving in secret, yet in Matthew 5:16 Jesus tells his disciples to *let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven*. How do you resolve this apparent conflict?
- Read 1 Corinthians 16:1-2. How helpful do you find Paul's instructions? Does this contradict Jesus' instruction to not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing?
- 3 times in these 4 verses, Jesus mentions a reward from your Father in heaven. What do you understand by this? Do you find it an encouraging thought or a bit strange? You may find Ephesians 2:8-10 helpful.

**Takeaway**

What is the main thing each person is taking away from this discussion?

All talks are recorded and may be viewed on TBC's YouTube Channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM1OwaJ4eSICosAjl9Ofzjw>