

“Zealous Christianity: Beware of Self-Righteousness” (Part 2)  
Matthew 6:1-18

*“Love grows in secret, quiet, private behaviors that overflow into the public square in acts of love done for the glory of God. **Self-righteousness** has the intent of being seen by men, for the praise of men, for the glory of self.”*

- The differences between the Grace of Christ and the Law of Christ:
  - As time goes, keeping the intensity of **passionate love** requires far more than law or rule keeping. It requires going beyond the **minimum** of law keeping and striving for a **maximum** commitment to showing the worth of the object of your affection. When Christ is pursued from a **heart of love**, by the **means of grace** and **wisdom**, our acts of love go from heavy to light. (cf. Matthew 11:28-30)
- Matthew 6:1-8,16-18:
  - We are told to be **generous, to pray, and to fast**....but now how often, or how much, from what, or how long?
  - The Warning: “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people....” (Matthew 6:1)
  - The Command: “Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works....” (Matthew 5:16)
  - The Warning: “Beware of wanting to be seen by men.” (Matthew 6:1)
  - The Goal: “They would give glory to God.” (Matthew 5:16)
  - Do we want to be **rewarded** by God or do we want to be **rewarded** by men?

*Private love shows itself in public love. Private humility shows itself in public humility. Private patience shows itself in public patience. Private self-righteousness shows itself in public self-righteousness.*

- **Side note**: Private, humble pursuit of God always shows itself in forgiveness. If it is not easy to forgive, you are being **self-righteous**. If it is not easy for you to admit sinning, you are being **self-righteous**. (Matthew 6:14-15)
- Marks of Self-Righteousness: **Love** and **Grace** killers!
  - Self-Righteousness **loves to** point out the sins of others, but despises having their sins pointed out. (Matthew 23:25-26)
  - Self-Righteousness **loves to** have attention drawn to how committed or religious they are. They like to point out their doctrinal disciplines, their practical disciplines, or their accolades. (Matthew 23:5-7)
  - Self-righteousness does not listen, will not have their mind changed, and cannot be wrong. **They love** being right more than being humble. (Matthew 23:1-4)
  - Self-righteousness **loves** glory, and hates others being recognized. They are jealous and fearful of someone replacing them, even Jesus. (Matthew 23:13-15)
  - Self-righteousness is a **devotion** to caring how you are seen by men, not how you are seen by God (Matthew 23:5).

**Worship:** God is For Us —City Alight  
Christ is Mine Forevermore — City Alight

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery — Matt Boswell

**Closing Song:** Glorious Christ — Sovereign Grace Music

**Service Times:** Sundays: Sunday School 9a/Prayer 9:45a/Church 10:30a; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30p/Men 6:30p & 7p;  
Thursdays: Prayer 6:20p/Church 7p

**Announcements:**

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of February we are collecting monetary donations for the Lambs. They are a missionary family living and serving in Papua New Guinea, working to translate the Bible into the multiple different languages of that country. For more information about the Lambs and their work in Papua New Guinea, please see the board at the back of the sanctuary. There is a container on the back table to collect your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for the Lambs.

★**NEW MEMBERS CLASS:** For anyone interested in becoming a church member, we are offering a 2 week New Members Class starting **NEXT** Sunday, February 18th, from 9-10am in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up if you are interested in participating in this class. This class is also open to any current church members who are interested in learning more about our Church By-Laws.

★**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH:** We are having a Fellowship Lunch TODAY immediately following the worship service. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the food and the fellowship with us!

★**CHURCH NIGHT OF PRAYER:** On Sunday, February 25th, we are having our Church Night of Prayer from 5:30-7pm. If you would like to participate in this, we have a sign-up list on the table in the entryway. We have that hour and a half broken up into 15 minute increments, you are welcome to sign up for as many time slots as you would like to. During this prayer time we will be praying for specific prayer requests within the church body.

★**CLEANING MINISTRY MEETING:** If you currently serve in or are interested in serving in the Cleaning Ministry, please mark your calendars and plan on attending a short ministry meeting on Sunday, March 17th, immediately following the worship service.