



**Hypocrite Traps**  
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Lead Pastor

Matthew 6:1-18, p. 678

**Please understand these foundational truths:**

- God wants me to live a godly life (5:1-48).
- My godliness is to be very practical (6:1-18).
- God looks in the secret places of my life (6:4, 6, 18).
- **Why** is more important than **what** (6:2, 5, 16).
- God wants to reward me (6:1, 4, 6, 18).

As Christ followers, we give, we pray, we forgive, we commit ourselves to God.

**Watch out for these traps:**

1. I do not believe **hypocrisy is a problem** for me (6:1).
2. I desire the **applause** of others rather than the **approval** of God (6:2-6, 16).
3. I prefer **short-term** rather than **long-term** rewards (6:2-5, 16).
4. I am **manipulative** rather than **humble** when I pray (6:5-13).
5. I hoard rather than **extend** grace (6:14-15).
6. I want others, rather than only God, to notice my **sacrifice** (6:16-18)

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**ONE THING: The chase increases the enticement of the traps!**  
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**Miss something?** Completed sermon notes are available online. Binders to organize your sermon notes are available at the upstairs Welcome Desk.

**NEXT STEPS**

- Memorize the Sermon on the Mount.
- Give, pray, forgive, sacrifice, but...!
- Humbly and honestly address these traps with someone else.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTES FOR PERSONAL & SMALL GROUP STUDY**

**KEEPING IT REAL**

**1** Have you heard people say, "All Christians are a bunch of hypocrites"? Is this a fair assessment? Explain.

**LOOK AT THE BOOK**

**2** Jesus uses the word hypocrite three times in Matthew 6:1-18. Why is He so concerned about hypocrisy? How is self-righteousness (a form of hypocrisy) deadly to your spiritual health?

**3** How do you see Jesus (God) chasing after us in these verses? In what way could unforgiveness hold you in bondage? What did Jesus say a consequence of our not forgiving others would be?

**TAKING IT FURTHER**

**4** These areas (alms, prayer, forgiveness and fasting) are examples of Jesus wanting us to be sincere (honest, truthful), not phony or self-righteous. Do an honest evaluation of your inner life. In the power of the Holy Spirit, what changes will you make?

**WORSHIP LYRICS**

If you'd like to spend more time with the lyrics from any of the songs this morning, please click on the song title below to continue worshipping.

[10,000 Reasons \(Bless the Lord\)](#)

[Build Your Kingdom Here](#)

[We are Forgiven](#)

[No Longer Slaves](#)

[The King is Heree](#)