

SERMON NOTES
January 8, 2012
T. Don Guthrie, preaching

A Secret Life
Matthew 6:1-6

- A Secret Life

Mark 1:35 In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left *the house*, and went away to a secluded place, and was praying there.

- A Religious Life

Religion ligament, ligature “that which binds”

Hebrews 12:11 All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

“Anything worth doing is worth doing badly.” --G.K. Chesterton

- A Prosperous Life

“Your Father who sees in secret will repay you” (vs. 4, 6, 18)

Psalm 1:3

mithos “wage”

apodidomi “to return in kind, to repay”

- A Shared Life

Meeting privately with God will inspire you to go public

A hard, high place

acrophobia “fear of high places”

Colossians 3:1-4

¹Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

Matthew 6:1-6

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven.

“So when you give to the poor, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be honored by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ³But when you give to the poor, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving will be in secret; and your Father who sees *what is done* in secret will reward you.

⁵“When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ⁶But 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.