

Monday, March 7, 2022

Connect with The Father in Secret

[Matthew 6:1-6](#)

“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. .² “So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.^[a]

My Country Doctor Dad taught the importance of “keeping a confidence.” Making house calls with Doc in homes up and down the Buckhannon River valley gave me a chance to learn that lesson well.

The Hippocratic Oath that physicians subscribe to says:

“...Whatever I see or hear in the lives of my patients, whether in connection with my professional practice or not, which ought not to be spoken of outside, I will keep secret, as considering all such things to be private...”

Jesus, the Great Physician, teaches the same lesson learned. When the needy receive care, give and treat in secret. Do not let the left hand know what the right hand does. The reward for giving in secret will come from God the Father.

Likewise, country doctoring involved house calls in the middle of the night.

One Easter in my youth, Dad told us he had not slept through the night in his and Mom’s bed from Thanksgiving to Easter. Sometimes there was a baby to deliver; sometimes pneumonia to treat; sometimes a wound to dress. Dad made the point to say he grew closer to God praying earnestly and continually in the middle of those secret nighttime prayer vigils. My sisters and I slept securely and warmly in our beds also covered by prayer.

We have a connection to God who heals, Jehovah-Rapha; who supplies our needs, El Shaddai; and who provides, Jehovah-Jireh. God answers and rewards our prayers as we pray in secret. The rewards are abundant, worthy of a mighty God we serve.

Prayer: *Father God, today I connect with you praying in secret. I bow my head hallowing Thy Name. Our Father who is unseen but omnipresent, omniscient and omnipotent, hear my prayer. Thy will be done. Amen.*

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