

November Development Guide

SUBJECT: MOTIVE MATTERS MOST



Matthew 5:8 (NKJV) – *“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”*

When people see **me**, nothing changes. When people see **God**, everything changes. It’s amazing how much can be accomplished when no one cares who gets the credit.

1. Why Motives Matter

Our actions may be right, but our motives determine whether people see **us** or **God**. We can’t heal, save, or transform anyone—only God can.

Credit will either:

- Make you **corrupt**
- Make you a **clown**

“Blessed is the man whose motives are entirely unmixed.” A pure heart creates clarity for people to see God clearly through us. A mixed heart blurs the view.

2. The Battle of Mixed Motives

Most of us aren’t dealing with *evil* motives—just **mixed** ones. We love Jesus, but we also love being seen.

Common signs of mixed motives:

1. Pride in accomplishments
2. Taking too much credit for generous acts
3. Serving or sacrificing, then feeling like someone owes you
4. “Hero disease” – needing to be noticed as the hero
5. “Martyr spirit” – *look what I did, look how much it cost me*
6. Preaching or serving for affirmation
7. Wanting to be selfless, but craving self-display
8. Loving Christ, but also loving the crowd
9. Wanting to make a difference, but needing others to see it
10. Passion for Christ mixed with the pull of popularity
11. Avoiding motive checks because they’re uncomfortable

Prayer:

Lord, help my heart to be pure. Examine my motives. Remove anything that blurs the view of You.

November Development Guide

SUBJECT: MOTIVE MATTERS MOST



3. The Question Every Servant Must Ask

Are you in ministry...

- to be **seen**?
- to make **much of yourself**?

OR

- to make **much of Him**?

We all face the struggle between “**me**” and “**Jesus**.” When our hearts are pure, people don’t just encounter us—they encounter God.

4. Four Ways to Keep a Pure Heart

1. Seek God and His Word

- Pray **Psalm 51:10** – “Create in me a clean heart, O God.”
- Stay rooted in devotion. Daily time with God keeps motives clear.
- Serve from overflow, not emptiness. A full heart reveals a pure heart.

2. Keep a Teachable Spirit

- *You can’t be teachable if you’re not approachable.*
- Give others permission to speak into your life — even the hard things.
- Freedom often lives in the last 10% of honest feedback.
- Don’t be the “hard-to-meet” person; stay open and humble.

3. Refuse to Live Offended

- Offense creates strife, and where there’s strife, **God can’t dwell**.
- Hurt people hurt people — learn to see their pain, not just your wound.
- When you sense tension in a team, ask: *Who’s offended?* Healing hearts restores unity and purity.

4. Maintain a Kingdom-Minded Scoreboard

- Broaden your scoreboard: celebrate what God does **through others**.
- “My greatest fruit will be on other people’s trees.” – *Billy Hornsby*
- Compliment other preachers, singers, and leaders often.
- When others win, the Kingdom wins.

November Development Guide

SUBJECT: MOTIVE MATTERS MOST



5. The Reward of a Pure Heart

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”

Those who keep their motives pure **see God**:

- in their own lives,
- in their ministries, and
- in the lives of those they serve.

Greatest reward in ministry: When we serve people, **they see God**.

Let Love Lead.

Everything we do—serving, leading, greeting, worshiping—is about helping people see **God**, not **us**. That’s why ***Motives Matter Most***.