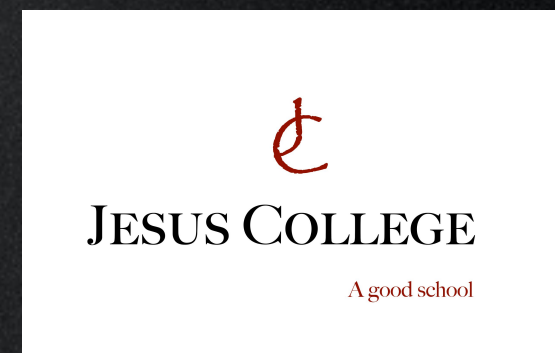


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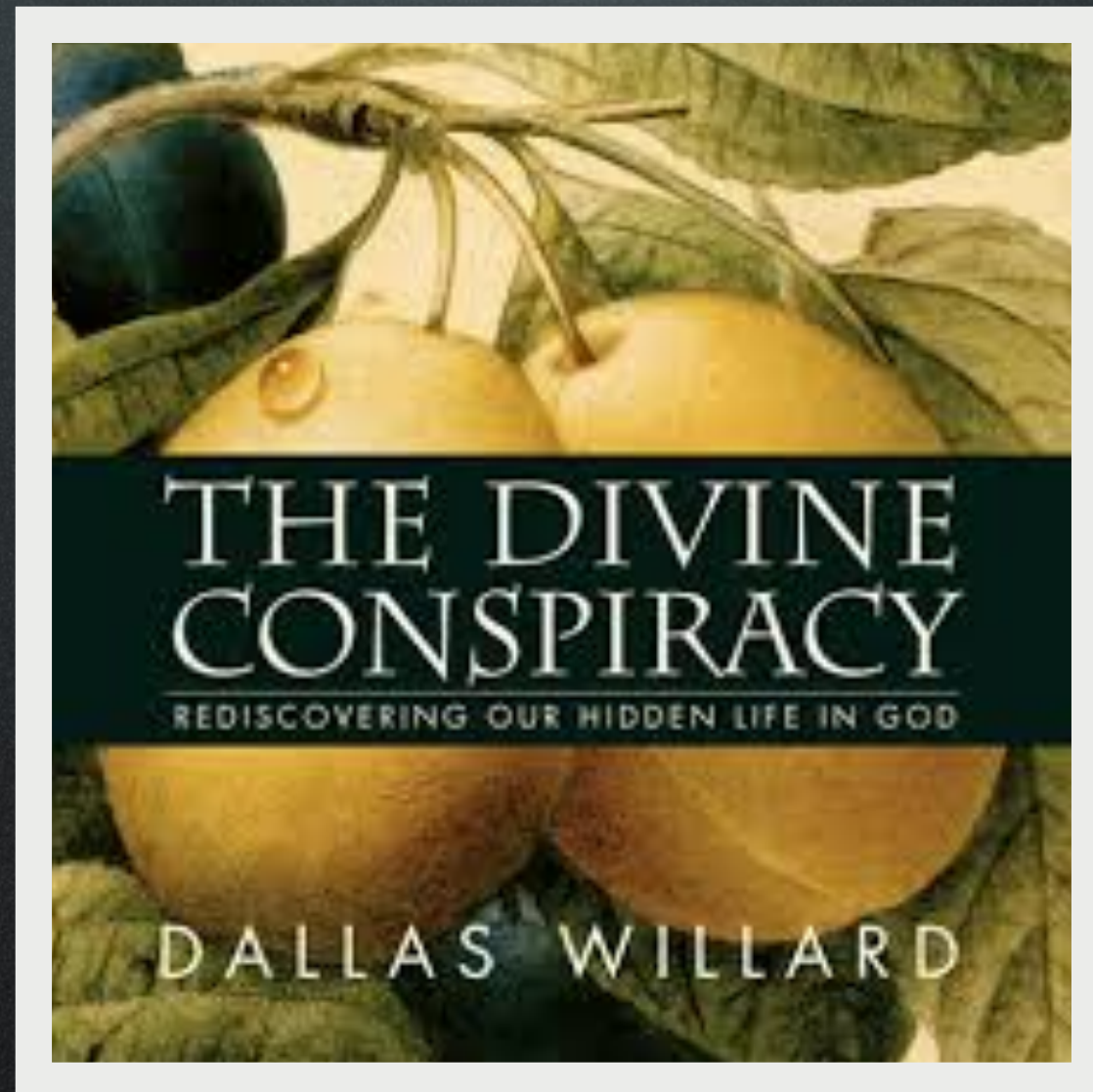




# **THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY**

Chapter 6 - "Investing in the Heavens:  
Escaping the Deceptions of Reputation & Wealth"

*Session 17 - "The Respectability Trap"*





## **THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY**

### **REVIEW Session 16 - “Transparent Words; Unquenchable Love”**

“He calls us to Him to impart Himself to us.  
He does not call us to do what He did,  
but to be as He was, permeated with love.”

Dallas Willard  
*The Divine Conspiracy*, p. 183





# **THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY**

## **Chapter 6 - "Investing in the Heavens: Escaping the Deceptions of Reputation & Wealth"**

### *Session 17 - "The Respectability Trap"*

#### **Who is Your Audience?**

1st - The teaching is not that we should hide our good deeds. (189)

2nd - Our intent is determined by what we want and expect from our action. (190)

God does not like to be present where He is not wanted. He knows when He is wanted and when He is not. He does not intrude, generally speaking. (190)



ONE DAY...

TO SEE MY NAME UP IN LIGHTS!



Wait, Jesus first said... (Mt. 5:16)

“Let *your* light so shine before men, that they may see *your* good works and glorify *your* Father in Heaven.”

Now, Jesus said... (Mt. 6:1)

“Be careful not to practice *your* righteousness in front of others to be seen by them.”

Is Jesus teaching us to go public or stay private?

The 1st Teaching      *God looks good*

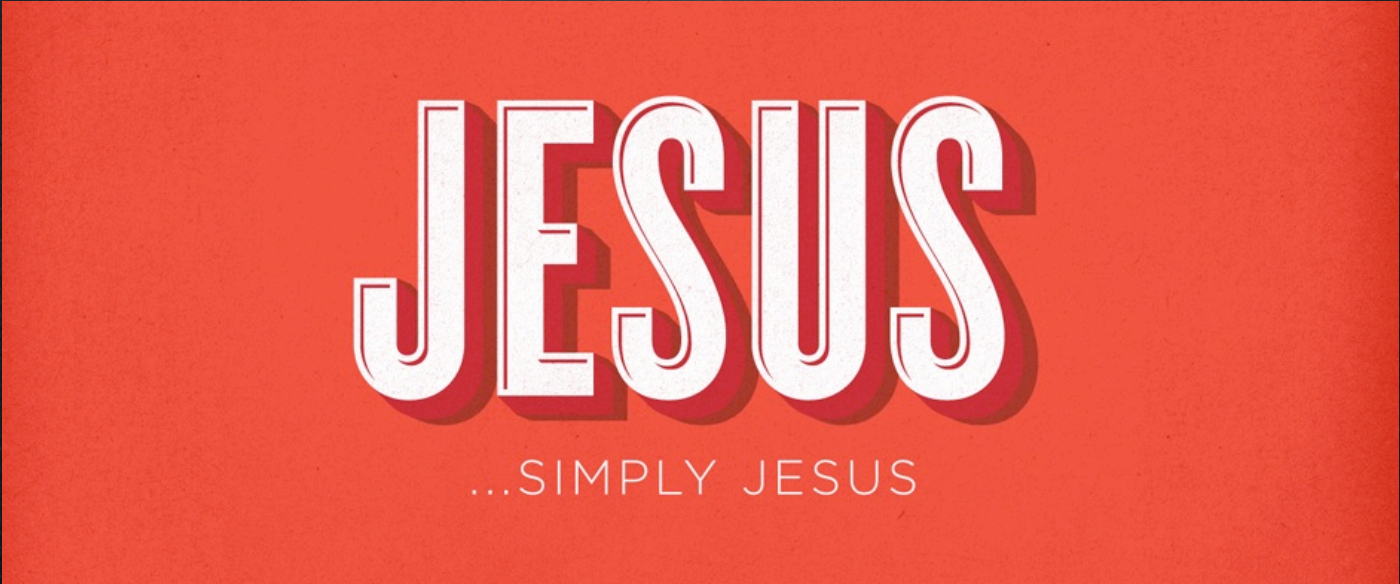
The 2nd Teaching      *I look good*

*“that they may see” vs. “to be seen”*



“What if we made Jesus the most popular person in the room?”

doug fields



JESUS

...SIMPLY JESUS





## **Disciplines as a Means of Grace...**

1. GIVING

2. PRAYING

3. FASTING

**...to practice what Jesus taught!**





# Disciplines as a Means of Grace

## 1. GIVING — Matthew 6:1-4

“Hypocrite” - Used 17 times by Jesus  
(def.) “an actor, one being on stage” (191)

Left Hand/Right Hand

Generous people do what they do naturally,  
often automatically. (192)





## **Disciplines as a Means of Grace** (continued)

### 2. PRAYING — Matthew 6:5-15

Again, the ego swells, the soul shrivels. (193, 191)

Kingdom praying and its efficacy is entirely a matter of the innermost heart being totally open and honest before God.

In apprenticeship to Jesus...He teaches us how to be in prayer what we are in life and how to be in life what we are in prayer.

(195)





## **Disciplines as a Means of Grace** (cont'd)

### 3. FASTING — Matthew 6:16-18

Jesus indicates that physical nourishment too was available directly from spiritual sources. (198)

Nourishing ourselves on the person of Jesus. (199)

*“Fasting enables us to  
remain sweet and strong  
when we don’t get our way.”*

Dallas Willard



The Discipline of Secrecy will help us break  
the grip of human opinion over our souls  
and our actions.

Dallas Willard  
*The Divine Conspiracy*, p. 200





## **As Gathered Christians...**

Jesus lays His finger upon a primary cause of their ineffectiveness as schools of eternal living. (201)

If our lives and works are to be of the Kingdom of God, we must not have human approval as a primary or even major aim. (202)







“The public nature of our Christianity  
versus  
the private nature of our Christ.”

doug webster





Questions or Comments!



Use “Q&A” on the bottom of your Zoom screen



**In the next 10,000 minutes...**

Q - Who am I trying to impress? Why do his/her/their opinions matter so much?

Q - What "blessings" or "impact" do I seek to replace life in Jesus, simply Jesus?

Q - Is Jesus alone enough for me?

Q - What is one action through which I can practice the Discipline of Secrecy?





# **Next Week — Session 18**

Chapter 6 - "Investing in the Heavens:  
Escaping the Deceptions of Reputation & Wealth"

## **“The Bondage of Wealth”**

Matthew 6:19-34

Hardback - pp. 203-214

Paperback - pp.224-236

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be regarded as  
Kingdom royalty for  
the next 10,000 years!

*Doug*

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# THE SCHOOL of KINGDOM LIVING

**Information...Registration** — [JohnC@dwillard.org](mailto:JohnC@dwillard.org)





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