

## Galatians 6:14

***But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.***

When you think of any famous Christian outside of the bible, one that does all kinds of things for others, who do you think of? Mother Teresa, Chuck Smith, Greg Laurie, Billy Graham, maybe a certain person in the church that you go to? Did you realize that the reason you know about that person is that they never boast or talk about the great things they have done. Rather, others see them doing these things for the Kingdom of God, and they boast about them.

But how often do people look up to someone because they tell others what great things they have done, and they think, “I want to be like that person”. They have thousands of followers on Social Media, they are on talk shows on TV, they have blogs talking about how awesome they are and on and on... Yet Jesus said about those who do, ***“Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.”*** **Matthew 6:2**

I also like how the Message bible puts this:

† **Matthew 6:2 (MSG)** ***“When you do something for someone else, don't call attention to yourself. You've seen them in action, I'm sure—'playactors' I call them—treating prayer meeting and street corner alike as a stage, acting compassionate as long as someone is watching, playing to the crowds. They get applause, true, but that's all they get.”***

But those who we are talking about, that are very well known in the family of God, are that way, because first off, they don't boast in anything they have done, but rather they choose to ***“boast in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.”***

Not only that, but they read God's word and listened to what Jesus says, and they applied Jesus' words to their life:

† **Matthew 6:6** ***But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.***

When people don't boast, then the Lord will reward them for what they have done ***(your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.)***

But what about us? Are we seeking to be somebody, therefore we boast in the things we do, making sure when we are helping out, that we are doing selfies or having someone else take our picture to post on social media?

Do you desire to be upfront for all to see when things are happening, standing next to the pastor or leadership in the church, trying to be somebody special?

Maybe not that much, but do you boast to your friends and family about what you have done, wanting them to think that you are all that?

Maybe you don't boast, but the only time you will help out in the church or even help others, is if others can see you doing it. But doing something away from the crowd, you don't want anything to do with that, because who's going to see you helping out that way? Nobody, and that's the way it should be. It's not wrong for others to see you serving, but if you do it to be seen, then that is when it is self-seeking and boasting in yourself without using any words.

† **Psalm 44:8** *In God we boast all day long, And praise Your name forever. Selah*

† **Psalm 20:7 (NLT2)** *Some nations boast of their chariots and horses, but we boast in the name of the LORD our God.*

† **1 Thessalonians 2:6 (MSG)** *Even though we had some standing as Christ's apostles, we never threw our weight around or tried to come across as important, with you or anyone else.*