

*From the Pastor*  
August 2021

# **SECRET SERVICE**

I like the Toy Story movies. One thing I like is the idea of toys being alive but only moving when children are not looking. Children might wonder, "How is it that a toy I played with before I went to bed ended up in the toy box when I woke up?" The movies give them an explanation. Of course, the true story is that mom or dad put the toys away while the children were asleep. The parent secretly did this and didn't look for appreciation from their children. I would call that secret service.

God commends those who are in His secret service. He looks with favor on those who don't try to show off their Christianity before others or seek praise from others. Jesus mentions this a couple of times in the Sermon on the Mount. Take a look at what Jesus says:

**Matthew 6:6** *But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (ESV)*

**Matthew 6:17-18** <sup>17</sup> *But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,* <sup>18</sup> *that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (ESV)*

I have noticed that people in our church are serving God by secretly helping. Plants are planted without anyone seeing, meals are brought to those in need, money is given to help out, and no one but God knows who did these things. These people are all part of God's secret service.

Let me encourage you to join God's secret service. Look for ways to serve the Lord secretly. Know that God does see, and He looks on you with joy.

In Him and for His glory,

*Pastor Art*