

Sunday – September 17, 2023



What do you pretend to be in person that you really are not in private? _____

Jesus continues on his journey to the cross, but not before continuing to critique those who should be leading people closer to God, are in fact leading people further away.

Jesus denounces _____ religion.

Read (*Matthew. 23:1-7*).

Hypocrite- “an actor who plays different roles depending upon the mask they wear for the character of the moment.”

Read through *Matthew 23:1-28*. Briefly list all the critiques Jesus makes of the religious leaders.

Which of those charges would still be valid today? Which could be said about me?

Read *Matthew 23:13,15*.

Jesus levels 7 “woes” or laments against the leaders. In his woe was sadness for what was happening, and anger and judgement for those engaging in these behaviors.

In what ways do we ask people to conform to us, rather than to Jesus? How have we possibly colored the gospel to others?

Jesus denounces _____ religion.

Read *Matthew 23:23-28*.

Jesus saves his strongest words for those who look and act religious, but inwardly are empty.

How am I tempted to act like a Jesus follower, but know inwardly it is a lie?

What would Jesus say about how I manage my inner beliefs and outwards appearances? What will I change?

This week:

- Are there any hypocritical behaviors I need to confess to God and ask Him for help changing?

Next Week: “Divide and.....”