



MARCH 10, 2024
THE KING'S WARNING
MATTHEW 23:1-39

Introduction – It's Me, Hi, I'm the Problem It's Me

The Problem with Hypocrisy

Seven Warnings

Lent: A Season For Self-Examination

*A disciple of Jesus is someone who is **following** Jesus, is being **changed** by Jesus, and is **committed** to the **mission** of Jesus. (Matthew 4:19)*

HARBOR OF HOPE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH



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Reflection Questions for Groups or Individuals:

1. Take a moment to read all of Matthew 23.
2. As you reflect on these warnings to the Pharisees, when you think about what a Pharisee looks like today- who do you think of?
3. We said that Jesus spoke these words ABOUT the Pharisees TO the crowd and the disciples. As you read through Matthew 23, what warnings to the Pharisees do you see as potential issues in your life? Spend some time to pray through these 7 warnings now, and ask God to show you which of them you are prone to, then share them with your group.

Woe #1- You gatekeep God's Kingdom (Matthew 23:13)

Woe #2- You teach others to be harmful (Matthew 23:15)

Woe #3- You aren't people of your word (Matthew 23:16-22)

Woe #4- You are missing the big picture(Matthew 23:23-24)

Woe #5- You're worried about appearance rather than substance (Matthew 23:25-26)

Woe #6- You pretend to be righteous, but your hearts are corrupt (Matthew 23:27-28)

Woe #7- You abuse God's messengers (Matthew 23:29-32)

4. Close your group time with prayer for each other in the areas you've confessed your struggles with. Ask God for His help to change you, and then thank Him that He loves you, forgives you, and joyfully wants to make you new. Encourage each other with God's love and grace, even as you face these difficult truths about yourself.

Discovery Bible Study Method for Groups or Individuals

(for more information on this method of Bible study- see <https://www.dbsguide.org/>)

1. Talk: To begin the study, each person answers these questions:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is causing you stress?
- Who needs our help? How can this group help them?

2. Look Back (session 2+)

- Retell story from the previous meeting.
- What did you do differently because of this story?
- Who did you tell and what was the reaction?

3. Read & Re-tell

- One person reads the Bible passage out loud, and the rest follow along.
- Someone else retells the passage by memory, if possible. Others can fill in what is missing.

4. Look

- Read the passage again.
- Discuss what this passage says about God, Jesus or his plan.

5. Look again

- Read the passage once more
- Discuss what this passage says about humans
- Discuss what this passage says about being a disciple of Jesus

6. Inside me

- According to this study, what am I doing well?
- What do I need to change?

7. Who else?

- Who needs to hear this story?
- How can I tell them?
- Who can I invite to study the Bible?

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