

# INSIDE IDEO Two-Faced Religion

MATTHEW 23:1-36

## I. Spiritual hypocrisy hides \_\_\_\_\_ intent behind good deeds.

*Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat, so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice. ... They do all their deeds to be seen by others." vv. 1-3, 5a*

## II. Spiritual hypocrisy taints good deeds, leaving an \_\_\_\_\_ effect.

"You hinder people from coming to Christ." (v. 13)

"You seek to convert people to your own opinions." (v. 15)

"You talk out of both sides of your mouth." (v. 16)

"You major in the minors." (v. 23)

"You focus on appearing godly to others." (v. 25)

"You poison people with whom you come in contact." (v. 27)

"You self-righteously reject truth and God-given authority." (v. 29)

## III. Spiritual hypocrisy ultimately wants to \_\_\_\_\_ glory from God.

*"But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ." vv. 8-10*

**We have one Master: Christ**

**We have one standing: children**

**We have one Father: God**

**We have one posture: humility**

**HUMBLE YOURSELF BEFORE GOD HUMBLER \_\_\_\_\_.**

*"The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." vv. 11-12*



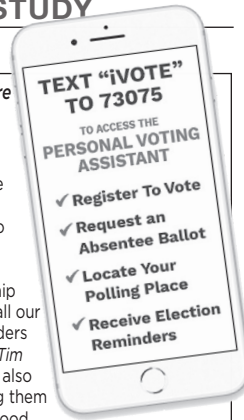
1. If Jesus suddenly appeared on the American church scene today, do you think He might pronounce any “woes” upon it? What could they be?

2. Read Matthew 23:1-36. What did righteousness mean to the Pharisees? What did ministry mean to them?

**Elections are just around the corner!**

As we have always done historically, we intend to continue to encourage our fellowship to pray for all our nation's leaders (Rom 13:1, 1 Tim 2:1-4), while also encouraging them to vote as good citizens should. If you're not registered or you need to update your information, a quick way to do both is through Turbovote's Personal Voting Assistant.

*Voter registration forms and resources are available today at each campus.*



3. What burdens do we as Christians give to others? How can this keep them from knowing God?

4. When have you felt that the Christian life is burdensome? How has Jesus' teaching here lifted that burden?

5. What changes do we need to make in our lives to avoid being like the Pharisees? Read Psalm 139:23-24 for insight.

**JOURNAL** Matthew 23:1-36

Read Psalm 139 and also the quote at left. When we try to follow Jesus' teaching, we are more aware of our own sinfulness and the need for continual forgiveness when we fall short. Spend some time praying back this psalm to the Lord, rejoicing in His forgiveness and asking Him to continue His work in you.

**COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL**

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events). That's a great spot to see what's coming up!

**SIDE-BY-SIDE** If you want to be used to bless young women as they grow in their faith, join us Saturday, Sept. 24 for this Side-by-Side Workshop. Find out what it looks like to practically disciple others, and hear testimonies of other mentors who know how to deepen another woman's walk with God. Learn more by visiting [ccbcfamily.org/events](http://ccbcfamily.org/events).

**OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY** Dr. Bill Egner teaches the books of the O.T. in chronological order—and some New Testament books will be included along the way. Your walk with Jesus will never be the same as you mine the endless treasures in this part of your Bible. Sundays beginning Oct. 2 at 5 p.m. in the Oak Room. For more details, see [ccbcfamily.org/events](http://ccbcfamily.org/events).

**WOMEN IN THE WORD** How do we walk with Jesus when we're broken, tempted to choose wrongly, or even unaware of our mistakes? The book of James offers us practical and relevant ways to live faithfully in specific situations, and we would love to discover them together. Join us on Thursdays at 9:45 a.m. or 7 p.m. Learn more by visiting [ccbcfamily.org/women](http://ccbcfamily.org/women).

**BAND OF BROTHERS** The book of Genesis is more than stories—it's a history of God's sovereign plan of redemption to all of us. How did this cosmic story of salvation begin? Discover the answer in Band of Brothers this fall as we jump into a new series, In the Beginning, Thursdays at 6:30 a.m. or 7 p.m. Learn more by visiting [ccbcfamily.org/men](http://ccbcfamily.org/men).

**HOME GROUPS** A church family is Sunday mornings, but it's also the people who walk with you every day. This fall, get involved with a Home Group! From studying Scripture together to catching up about your week, Home Groups are a great way to be connected. Visit [ccbcfamily.org/cp](http://ccbcfamily.org/cp) to learn more.

**SERVE OUR SCHOOLS** Serve Our Schools, a ministry with Local Outreach, partners with schools in Tarrant, Parker and Johnson County to support students and teachers in the classroom by tutoring, giving teachers an extra hand, or sharing the gospel in after-school Bible clubs. Go to [ccbcfamily.org/schools](http://ccbcfamily.org/schools).

**SERVE IN KIDS MINISTRY** We're excited to offer Kids Ministry classes for hundreds of kids every Sunday, and more volunteers are needed to help us teach about Jesus! Share the gospel and provide opportunities for parents and kids alike to grow in their faith on Sunday mornings. Learn more at [ccbcfamily.org/kids](http://ccbcfamily.org/kids).

**SOUL CARE CLASS ON FORGIVENESS** Forgiveness can be a simple conversation but also a complicated process. This eight-week women's small group will give you space to be honest with your questions and consider a biblical perspective of forgiveness that can bring peace to your life. This group is for women age 19 and older. Learn more and register online at [ccbcfamily.org/soulcare](http://ccbcfamily.org/soulcare).

**LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD?** Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE.** The process is quick and easy—text CCBCWC to 833-422-7200 to get started.

**FOR THIS WEEK**

**SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE:**

Matthew 23:12

*“Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”*

**JOURNAL:**

Matthew 23:1-36

*“When I speak of sin, I will no longer talk of it as something in my distant past. When I speak of forgiveness, I will not speak of it as something I received years ago when I became a Christian. ... And when conversation turns to talk of sinners, I will realize that the conversation is really about me. I will always know that I am the worst of sinners. I put Jesus on the cross; my sin nailed him there. And if I ever catch myself thinking that there exists a worse sinner than I, regardless of the gravity of the crime, it is at that point that I have stepped over the pharisaical line and am speaking about something of which I know nothing. When it comes to sin, I can only speak of myself with absolute certainty, and in regard to myself and sin, I am certain of this: that I am an expert in both my sin and my forgiveness. One brings me sorrow; the other brings me great joy. The remarkable thing is not that I sin, but that, in spite of my sin, I am capable of having fellowship with God and being used by him for his purposes in the world.”*

JOHN FISCHER  
*12 Steps for the Recovering Pharisee*