



MATTHEW 23:1-28

# “Are all Christians hypocrites?”

You might be a hypocrite if ...

- 1 You're comfortable with living a \_\_\_\_\_ standard. w. 3-4 *“For they preach, but do not practice.”*
  - 2 You seek \_\_\_\_\_-recognition. w. 5-12 *“They do all their deeds to be seen by others.”*
  - 3 You're \_\_\_\_\_ of those who do things differently. w. 13-15 *“... you shut the kingdom of heaven in people's faces.”*
  - 4 You're a “\_\_\_\_\_ looker.” w. 16-22 *“You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred?”*
  - 5 You're prone to partial \_\_\_\_\_. w. 23-24 *“These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.”*
  - 6 You conceal \_\_\_\_\_ sin. w. 25-28 *“... you clean the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.”*
- ... “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.” Luke 12:1

**WARNING: THIS SIN IS SERIOUS** Acts 5:1-16  
It threatens your relationship with God.  
It threatens the health of the church.  
It becomes an excuse for seekers to reject Jesus.

- ... “So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy ...” 1 Peter 2:1

## HOW TO AVOID HYPOCRISY IN YOUR LIFE

Give Jesus your whole heart, because halfhearted \_\_\_\_\_ always leads to hypocrisy.

Make \_\_\_\_\_, not others, your standard for life—it won't change or let you down.

Return to the “\_\_\_\_\_ life” where, because of Jesus, your inside matches your outside.

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_!  
Christians are \_\_\_\_\_ people who worship a \_\_\_\_\_ God.



## HOME GROUP LESSON

1. What was your reaction to the sermon, both for yourself and those who don't know Jesus?

2. Where did you recognize yourself in the first section *YOU MIGHT BE A HYPOCRITE IF ...?* What did you sense God's Spirit saying to you about that?

3. What does *authenticity* for a Christian look like to you? Why do you think being authentic is so important to so many people today? What is authenticity *not*?

"The greatest single cause of atheism in the world today is Christians who acknowledge Jesus with their lips and walk out the door and deny Him by their lifestyle. That is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable."

BRENNAN MANNING

4. Read Acts 5:1-11. In the *WARNING: THIS SIN IS SERIOUS* section of the sermon notes the pastor listed three ways hypocrisy affects others. Can you think of any more? How have you seen this played out in your own experience, and what did you learn from it?

"Hypocrites in the Church? Yes, and in the lodge and at the home. Don't hunt through the Church for a hypocrite. Go home and look in the mirror. Hypocrites? Yes. See that you make the number one less."

BILLY SUNDAY

5. Read the Scriptures below. Why is it so important that we focus not on ourselves but on Jesus when we discuss the topic of hypocrisy? What assurance about Jesus in this regard does the Christian have that the world doesn't understand?

Romans 5:8

1 Peter 2:22

John 14:6

"I heard one man say that he did not believe there was a true Christian living, because he had found so many hypocrites. I reminded him that there could be no hypocrites if there were no genuine Christians. No one would try to forge bank notes if there were no genuine ones."

CHARLES SPURGEON

6. Looking back at your answer to question 2, spend some time talking to the Lord about where He would work on changing an area so your inside matches your outside, and how you can begin to let Him. Below are some prompts to get you thinking.

how I speak to those who serve me

my attitude about parking when I arrive at church

choosing leisure activities, with others or alone

my degree of compliance with authority figures

compromising in order to fit in with a group

not caring how word of my hypocrisy spreads

how my poor behavior discourages church leadership and other believers

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events). They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

**LADIES, "3 THINGS" WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IS THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 14.** Think about the people that are part of your life: friendships, romantic relationships, parents and siblings, even the difficult ones. Now imagine what it would feel like to enjoy those relationships the way God intended. At 3 Things you'll hear CCBC women tell their stories and share what God has to say about building all your relationships into something truly beautiful. Register and RSVP for Kids Care by this Thursday, April 12 at [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events); the cost is \$20 per person.

**DIVE DEEPER INTO OUR NEW SERIES WITH AN APOLOGETICS COURSE.** Every week of the Q&A series we're releasing new articles, videos, interviews and recommended reading lists at [ccbc.pathwright.com](http://ccbc.pathwright.com). If you're interested in learning more about each week's big question, sign up today. The free course kicks off tomorrow, April 9!

**ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE CONFERENCE STARTS THIS FRIDAY, APRIL 13.** Empowered to Connect is a nationally-known conference that teaches families, churches and professionals how to serve children impacted by adoption and foster care. We'll stream the conference live in the Oak Room this Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sign up at [www.ccbcfamily.org/serve](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/serve).

**MEET A MISSIONARY NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 15.** We're excited to welcome back a former CCBC staff member who now lives and shares the gospel in a tumultuous part of West Asia. Come hear her stories at the Ta Ethne Missions Luncheon in the Oak Room at 12:15 p.m.! Next Generation Kids Care is available for ages 0 to 11 by RSVP at [www.ccbcfamily.org/KidsRSVP](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/KidsRSVP) through this Wednesday, April 11.

**PARENTS, ARE THERE ALMOST-TEENAGERS LIVING UNDER YOUR ROOF?** Fifth and sixth graders face a lot of unique challenges in today's world which is why Fifth+Sixth Ministry wants to encourage you at "Preparing for Adolescence." Join us next Sunday, April 15 at 5 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Questions? Email Shamyra at [ShamyraW@christchapelbc.org](mailto:ShamyraW@christchapelbc.org).

**DADS, REGISTER FOR FATHER-SON RETREAT!** You and your best guy will have a blast on this weekend adventure at Sky Ranch. Happening April 27-29, the weekend is designed so that dads and sons (Grades K-8) can step out of the busyness of everyday life and spend time together. Register at [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events). The cost is \$150 per person.

**PARENTS, YOUR KIDS WILL LOVE MUSICAMP!** Happening July 9-13, MusiCamp is a phenomenal week all about music and the arts for kids going into Grades 1-6. You'll be amazed at the show they put on! Register today at [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events). The cost is \$60 per camper.