



Hypocrisy

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1. What is hypocrisy?

- It is not the disparity between what we do and what we wish we did
- It is the gap between what we show and who we are
- It is the difference between what we say and how we live
- It is the difference between public persona and private character

²⁵ “What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and self-indulgence! ²⁶ You blind Pharisee! First wash the inside of the cup and the dish, and then the outside will become clean, too. ²⁷ “What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs—beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people’s bones and all sorts of impurity. ²⁸ Outwardly you look like righteous people, but inwardly your hearts are filled with hypocrisy and lawlessness. **Matthew 23:25-28 NLT**

2. Jesus’ reaction to hypocrites

- Harsh and zero tolerance for hypocrites
- Unlimited grace for sinners in need of forgiveness

¹ Jesus turned first to his disciples and warned them, “Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees—their hypocrisy. ² The time is coming when everything that is covered up will be revealed, and all that is secret will be made known to all. ³ Whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered behind closed doors will be shouted from the housetops for all to hear!

Luke 12:1-3 NLT

3. Breaking the chains of hypocrisy

- We don’t close the gap with perfection
- We close the gap with Christ

People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.

Proverbs 28:13 NLT

²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart, test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴ Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

Psalms 139:23-24 NLT

Next Steps:

- Make Psalm 139:23-24 my prayer this week
- Pray and ask God to show me the masks that I put on in my life
- Seek to get closer to God in my life as I walk by faith: _____
- Confess my hidden sins to a close friend this week
- _____