



Community Group Guide

“Avoiding Hypocrisy”

Week of January 31

Check-in

1. What lessons did you learn from your time in the Word this week?
 2. Who did you share the gospel with?
 3. What has God done in your life that's encouraging over the past week?
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Scripture

Read *Mark 7:1-23*

Key Point From Message

Three ways to keep from being hypocrites:

- Avoid judging others based on man-made rules and precautions.
- Avoid replacing God's Word with lesser things.
- Avoid thinking defilement happens only because of what we do, instead of happening because of who we are.

Passage in a sentence: Trust in Christ to fix your defiled heart and in His good commands seen in His good Word, instead of trusting in legalism or rule-following which only results in hypocrisy.

Discipleship Group Framework

D-group discussions in smaller gender-specific groups help to reveal our blind spots to sin. If this week is a D-group week, the discussions should be focused on confession of sin, providing accountability, and encouraging each other to live in the gospel. Focus on the questions under the “Discover” section and how this week's Scripture relates to our lives.

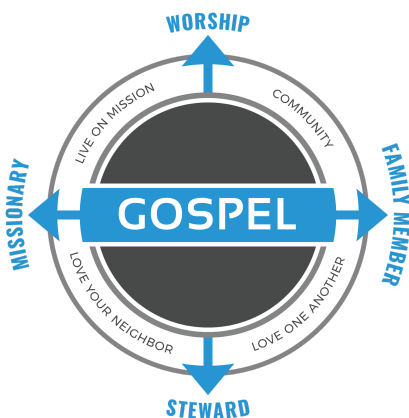


Image Church Core Values

When the gospel defines our lives it should impact everything we do. Living by the gospel should cause us to:

- Grow towards God through daily worship
- Love one another by gathering as family members
- Mobilize as missionaries for God's kingdom
- Be more generous stewards as we leverage our time, talents, and treasures for Christ.

As we study and discuss the text from this week evaluate how you can grow in each of these four areas.

Discover

1. What stands out to you in this passage of Scripture?
2. What does the text say about the character and nature of God?
3. What does the text say about the work of God?
4. What does the text say about our identity?
5. How does this change the way we live?

Deepen

1. What challenged you about this week's message?
2. Can rules fix our heart problem?
3. Sometimes we create rules out of good intentions, but these rules become legalistic expectations. What expectations have you created for yourself that you hold others too?
4. Is there an area of your life where you have become legalistic, but don't realize it?
5. Do you find yourself expecting believers and non-believers to hold to the same moral standards?
6. Where is an area of the Word that is easier for you to ignore? Why do you struggle to follow the Word in this area?
7. In which situations do you find yourself not valuing God's Word?
8. Where does holiness come from? Where does defilement come from?

Action Step

To be more holy, we don't need a better set of rules, we just need Jesus. Examine if your group has any legalistic rules that may hinder others from joining your group. Discuss if there are any expectations you hold each other to that are not found in God's Word. Discuss if there are any unstated expectations for your group.
