

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Matthew 21-23: Clash of Kingdoms - Confronting Power, Pride, and Empty Worship

Sermon: Matthew 23:1-12

Date: Sunday, August 9, 2026

1. *Read Matthew 23:1-12.* Jesus tells the crowds to do what the Pharisees say (when reading Scripture) but not what they do. How do we reconcile the authoritative truth of God's Word with the fact that its messengers are often imperfect or even hypocritical?
2. The Pharisees added a seemingly endless list of rules creating a religion where people felt like failures who couldn't measure up. Have you ever felt crushed by a spiritual expectation that felt more like being controlled or oppressed rather than being lead or shepherded?
3. How does using the Bible as a "pair of binoculars" to judge others prevent us from using it as a "mirror" to see the areas in our own lives that need transformation?

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