

What Would Jesus Undo?

Hypocrisy

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

¹⁶ *They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed. Titus 1:16 NASB*

²⁷ *“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness. ²⁸ So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. ³³ You serpents, you brood of vipers, how ^[a] will you escape the ^[b] sentence of ^[c] hell? Matthew 23:27-28, 33 NASB*

²⁵ *“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full ^[a] of robbery and self-indulgence. ²⁶ You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also. Matthew 23:25-26 NASB*

He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, But he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion. Proverbs 28:13 NASB

Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts;²⁴ And see if there be any ^[a] hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way Psalm 139:23-24 NASB

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Who are some of the least hypocritical people you know? What stands out about them?

Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Describe how you feel or what you think about when you hear the word “hypocrisy.”
- Read Proverbs 28:13. Why do you think confession leads to mercy?

Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Describe what “masks” you wore growing up. How did you show yourself as someone you weren’t?
- In what area of your life do you struggle to show your honest self?
- How will you ask your City Group, other friends, or family to pray for you this week?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power.

God, we have nothing to fear when we have nothing to hide. We can’t surprise You with our honesty and confession. Will You give us the boldness to live open lives? Thank You, Jesus, for your unlimited grace. Amen.

Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Tell your group about a mask you’ve been wearing. Then, ask them to help you watch for it—and keep it off.
- There’s still time to share this week’s message and invite a friend to your city group next week
- Do inventory this week as you interact with people. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you other masks you put on.