



Small Group Study Guide
SERMON: SOMEBODY'S WATCHING ME...AN YOU!
Confront, Control, Cast Out!
November 16, 2025 | CrossPointe Church
Tracy "PT" Pounders, Pastor

INTRODUCTION

In this sermon, PT addresses the themes of legalism and compassion from Luke 14:1-6, where Jesus heals a man with dropsy on the Sabbath. This interaction with the Pharisees highlights the conflict between strict adherence to man-made rules and the higher calling of love and mercy that Jesus represents. Through this narrative, we are encouraged to prioritize Scripture's true intent over rigid tradition.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Luke 14:1-6 - *Jesus Heals a Man on the Sabbath*

The passage describes Jesus being invited to the house of a Pharisee leader for a Sabbath meal. Observed closely by the Pharisees, Jesus heals a man with dropsy and challenges them about the appropriateness of performing such acts of mercy on the Sabbath, exposing their hypocrisy and prioritizing compassion over legalism.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In Luke 14:1, why do you think the Pharisees invited Jesus to their leader's house, and how does this reflect their attitudes mentioned in the sermon?
2. Reflect on Jesus' question in Luke 14:3. How does asking if it is lawful to heal on the Sabbath challenge the Pharisees' understanding of the law?
3. How does the healing of the man with dropsy (Luke 14:2-4) illustrate Jesus' teaching on compassion over religious legalism discussed in the sermon?
4. Considering Luke 14:5, why do you think Jesus uses the example of a son or ox falling into a well, and how does this relate to the theme of hypocrisy among the Pharisees?
5. PT pointed out that religious people often struggle with repentance and never want to apologize. How does the Pharisees' silence in Luke 14:4 demonstrate this issue?
6. Discuss how the themes of Scripture vs. tradition, as highlighted in PT's sermon, reflect on the conflict illustrated in this passage.
7. In the context of this passage, what does it mean to "stand on the biblical side" as opposed to a conservative or liberal side, based on PT's message?
8. Reflect on how the Pharisees' focus on rules (as described in the sermon) can distract from experiencing God's work in our lives, as seen in this passage.

PASTOR'S BEST QUOTES

- *"We should always stand on the biblical side. I don't want to be liberal, and I don't want to be conservative. I want to be biblical."*
- *"Religious people miss God-moments because they can't see past their rules, authority, and control."*
- *"if you're gonna help hurting people, you need more than a manual; you need the Holy Spirit, wisdom, discernment, community, patience, time, and prayer."*

ACTION PROMPTS

1. **Reflect on Priorities:** Identify any areas where you may prioritize rules or traditions over showing compassion and mercy and consider how you can realign with biblical teachings.
2. **Engage with Community:** Seek to understand the backgrounds and needs of those around you, offering support and empathy rather than judgment.
3. **Application:** Take a deliberate action this week that prioritizes loving people over adhering to routine or expectation.

CLOSING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for guiding us through Your Word and the insights shared today. Help us, as a community, to grow in understanding and compassion, breaking away from rigid traditions and embracing Your heart of mercy. We pray that everyone at CrossPointe will deepen their faith, find their community, and extend Your invitation to others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

PLEASE TAKE A GROUP PICTURE AND TAG PT (Franklin Tracy Pounders) and Tabatha Pankey ON FACEBOOK !!!