

FIVE THINGS TO CONSIDER IF HYPOCRISY IS YOUR DEALBREAKER

1. A bad _____ doesn't mean a bad _____.
2. The _____ is filled with people who aren't _____.
3. _____ away doesn't necessarily result in _____.
4. Don't forget to consider the _____ as _____ too.
5. _____ actually validates (sadly) the _____ of Jesus' message.

TRIVIAL OBJECTION

*Message given by Brandon Grant, Lead Pastor
Watch/Listen to more messages through the Rise City Church App or online
at www.risecitychurch.com*

DEAL BREAKERS: Christians are Hypocrites

Matthew 25:15, 25-28

THE DEAL BREAKER OF HYPOCRISY

The deal breaker of hypocrisy says...

The _____ of Jesus are the reason I don't _____ Jesus.

JESUS FOLLOWERS DON'T ACT LIKE JESUS

"The single greatest cause of atheism in the world today is Christians who acknowledge Jesus with their lips, then walk out the door and deny him with their lifestyle. This is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable."

- Brennan Manning

Christians are not statistically different from non-Christians in many arenas of life.

Consider the plethora of examples...

Hypocrite = one who is an actor and wears a mask

YOU'RE TICKED? SO IS JESUS!

Matthew 15:8...Matthew 23:15...Matthew 23:25-28 NLT

Essentially, Jesus is on your side if you despise Christianity!

**For continued sermon notes/outline, please turn to the back of this handout.*

DEAL BREAKERS: Christians are Hypocrites

GETTING STARTED

On a scale from 1 to 10, how would you rate your overall honesty and transparency in life and relationships?

SUNDAY RECAP

A Deal breaker is defined as *“a factor or issue that, if unresolved during negotiations, would cause one party to withdraw from a deal (or relationship).”* Many of us had deal breakers when it came to starting a relationship with God and/or the Church... an issue that caused us to withdraw from God or other Christians. These issues are usually associated with a first-hand negative experience that overshadow the truth or reality of God for us or others close to us. This week we take a look at a deal breaker that has kept many of us from knowing and following God... Christians.

STUDY & SHARE

1. Have Christians ever been a “deal breaker” for you, or someone you know from believing in or following Jesus? What were/are your deal breakers to following Jesus?

2. Read Matthew 23:15, 25-28. Jesus is giving an extremely strong warning. What are the warnings and who is he warning?

a) Jesus uses the word hypocrites to describe religious people. Interestingly people today often use that word to describe Christians. In what ways have Christians earned that title and in what ways is that an unfair assessment of Christians?

b) How can you apply these warnings to your own life and relationship with God and others?

c) Review the 5 things to consider if hypocrisy is your deal

breaker in this week’s message. Which of these did/do you struggle with and why? Are there people in your life that you could share these truths with?

3. Read Titus 1:16. Take a few moments and think about your own relationship with God. In what ways does your life align with what you claim to believe? In what ways are you inconsistent?

4. One of the main points of this week’s message had us consider the idea that our hypocrisy might be greatest evidence of our need for God.

a) In what ways has God used your weaknesses to draw you closer to Him?

SHINE TO OTHERS

Who in your life has had a negative experience with Christians? How can you begin to adjust your life to better reflect and shine for Jesus?

SUPPORT // PRAYER

Take a few minutes to pray for one another in regards to this week’s study and ask God to use the people of Rise to reach people in our community who have deal breakers and roadblocks in their relationship with Christ.

These **Sermon Based Life Group Materials are provided by Rise City Church for the purpose of deeper study of God’s Word and are best used in a small group setting. If you would like more information about Life Groups at Rise, please go the Life Groups page on our website or to the Rise City app.*