

WOE TO THE PHARISEES

Matthew 23.1-39

ATTITUDE TOWARDS OTHERS

Signs We're Expecting Too Much of Others:

1. **Major on external issues** (focus on keeping rules and expectations)
2. **Excessive control** (lots of rules, policies. Rigid expectations on spouses, kids (helicopter parenting, being overbearing or over-protective), "babysitting" or nagging friends, talking down or being smug and condescending.
3. **Overreacting to failure** (often resulting in taking back control)
4. **Being unforgiving and impatient**
5. **Elevating personal preference over (or alongside) biblical principle**
6. **Unnecessary separatism** (hiding, living in a bubble, asceticism)
7. **Judging others** (looking down on others' practices)
8. **Being "belligerent"** (combative with your views)
9. **No sense of humor** (you take yourself, and every matter, far too seriously)

**Pharisees make disciples, but they make disciples of their own selves.
They make followers of legalism and drudgery.**

James 3.9-12

ATTITUDE TOWARDS OURSELVES

Signs of Internal Legalism:

1. **Guilt Trips and Pity Parties** (making people feel bad if they don't do what you want; manipulation; passive aggressive words and body language; sob stories; silent treatment)
2. **Hide Behind Scripture** (take Scripture out of context to get what they want)
3. **People Pleasing** (care too much about what others think; want to be liked by everyone; try to always say the right thing to please someone; fear letting others down)
4. **Getting validation and value from being useful** (value and self-worth comes from what you do for others, being thanked, being recognized; comparing yourself to others (as parents, other marriages, ministry, talent, etc.)
5. **Getting value from being needed** (set up relationships in ways to be needed. Feel out of control or worthless if you are no longer needed).

HOW TO ESCAPE THIS BODY OF LEGALISTIC DEATH

Your righteousness would have no influence to uphold you or keep you from hell any more than a spider web could stop a falling rock.

-Jonathan Edwards

ABC's of Freedom from Legalism

A: Admit and Confession. First confess to God that you have been trusting in yourself and looking elsewhere for value. Confess and admit to those you have affected. Don't do this to get sympathy.

B: Believe that the blood of Christ covers every sin. Believe that your legalism and self-righteousness has been paid for.

C: Commit to pressing the truth of the Gospel into you every day. Reach out to others. Humble yourself. Let others speak into your life. Memorize Scripture.

NOTES:

Will You Pray With Us?

Follow along with our daily prayer requests by downloading the **PrayerMate App**, available on both **iOS** and **Android** phones. Go to our website for detailed instructions on how to subscribe to the app to be praying with us daily, as well as reading through our **2 Year Bible Reading Plan**.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We'd LOVE for you to fill out the green **Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering at the end of service or take it to one of our teammates in a **Green Shirt** at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information. Feel free to grab some food or coffee out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our **Kids on Mission** classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a faithful servant behind each of those examples. Serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! **Fill out a connection card** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll forge friendships, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

GIVING

Gospel-centered generosity is motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call **Life Mission** your home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets at the end of service, give online at lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give or mail a check to our PO Box. Thank you so much!

KIDS ON MISSION

Our **Kids on Mission** ministry has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. Visit our website to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart for the ministry and his walkthrough of our curriculum. For questions about KOM email **Katie McGinty** at katie@lifemission.tv

JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS

Our **6th - 8th graders** worship with the adults and then head to the junior high room with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our **9th - 12th graders** stay in the service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. Our **High School Ministry meets on Thursday Nights @7PM at Casey & Amy Barnes Home in San Marcos**. For directions and/or questions about our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at casey@lifemission.tv.

VISION: WHY DO WE EXIST?

We want to see God's glory known among the nations, to the least, last, and lost.

MISSION: WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

We need to make disciples who make disciples locally and globally, who are saved, equipped, and sent by the Gospel.

STRATEGY: HOW WILL WE DO IT?

By teaching people how to be rooted in the Gospel of God's glory through the Word of God, Prayer, and Gospel Community.

CONTACT US:

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Life Mission Church

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Twitter: @YourLifeMission
[YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV](https://www.youtube.com/LifeMissionTV)

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read through **Matthew 23:1-39**. What was most impactful from the Sermon on Sunday or stuck out to you in these verses? _____

Re-read **James 3:9-12**. What areas of your life do you see hypocrisy most taking place? Is it in your parenting, marriage, workplace or friendships? Or all of the above? _____

In your own experience, how has your hypocrisy affected relationships and what does that do in reflecting the love of Christ? _____

When Jobey asked us to think about this honestly, deep down, do you aim help people to find freedom in Christ to become their own person in Christ, or do you want them to model and copy you, your values, your convictions, your preferences or your ideology." What came to mind? _____

Look at the sermon notes. In the first two lists, what sticks out to you as something that you know you need to admit and repent of and hopefully see change in? What drives you to do those things? _____

Read **Romans 2:1-5**. What leads men to repentance? Our rules and expectations or God's kindness and mercy shown through the Cross? Discuss or share with the group any experiences you may have concerning God's kindness and its power.

Read **Ephesians 4:32** and **1 Peter 4:7-8**. How are we, the body of Christ, to display God's glory? _____

Before you meet with your **Community Group**, take time to ask others to honestly give you some answers and feedback based on some of the items in the list. Be willing to hear what they have to say, giving them permission to speak honestly and candidly. Ask them, also, if they are afraid to be honest with you, or if they truly feel comfortable.

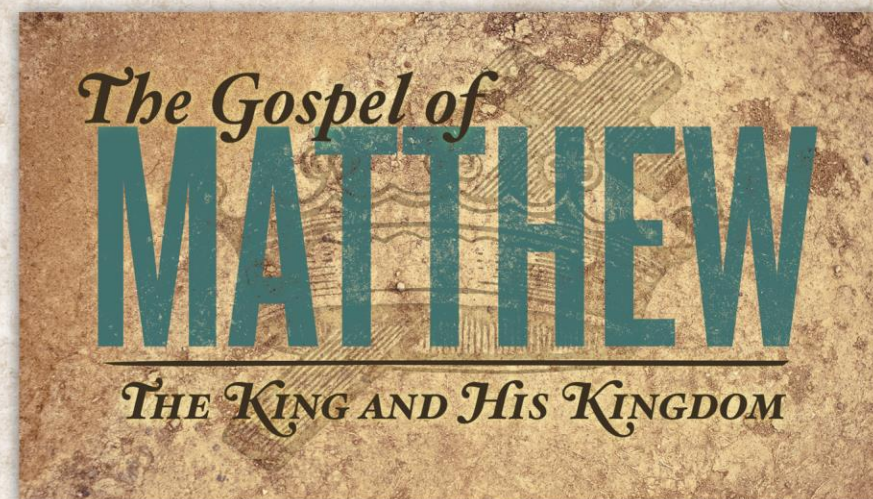
Take some time this week to repent of your own hypocrisy and legalism and ask the Spirit of God to show you how you are to display God's grace and kindness to those around you. Spend time at Group sharing what the Lord is showing you, asking them to help you. Spend time as a Group praying in the **P.R.A.Y.** model that Jesus gives us in **Matthew 6**.



LIFE MISSION
CHURCH

Pastor Jobey McGinty
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**Making Disciples Who Make Disciples Locally and Globally,
Who are Saved, Equipped, and Sent by the Gospel.**



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Matthew 23.1-39 // January 24, 2016

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

