

HUMBLE OR HYPOCRITE?

14 JULY 2024



“So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach.”

— Matthew 23:3 (NIV)



EVERY NATION
SINGAPORE

HOOK

 Start the conversation by saying...

Have you ever ordered food that looked completely different from what was shown on the menu?

ENGAGE

 Go deeper with this...

Tell about someone you know who said one thing but did the opposite.

LINK

 Connect to God's truth by sharing...

- In Matthew, Jesus revealed how far the Pharisees' hearts were from Him, though they were outwardly obedient and righteous.
- Genuine faith is marked by integrity, humility, and service.
- Integrity means we practice what we preach, value the right things, and focus on the inside more than the outside. (Matthew 23:3, 16–19, 24–28)
- Humility means our faith doesn't have to be seen to be valid. It means we trust God to exalt us rather than ourselves. (Matthew 23:5–7, 11)
- Service is an expression of our faith. It means we help others follow Jesus rather than burdening them with the Law. (Matthew 23:13)
- Knowing this, we can revisit our own motives and actions as we seek to walk in God's ways.
- Ultimately, Jesus is the true example of integrity, humility, and service.

PAUSE



Pick a question and pray together...

Discuss Together (*pick one*)

- Have you ever felt like a Pharisee? (Outwardly obedient; self-righteous; getting approval and validation for religious works; believing there's just one right way to follow Jesus)
- Do you feel that the kind of faith Jesus is looking for is attainable? What does Matthew 11:28–30 have to say about this?
- Which aspect do you need prayer for most: integrity, humility, or service?
- How often do you do a heart check and examine your motives?

Pray Together (*pick one*)

- Pray for genuine faith in God that will transform you as you walk in Him.
- Pray for God to open your eyes to see His ways, and not stubbornly stick to what you're used to.
- Pray that you will have integrity, humility, and service as Jesus did.

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¹¹“The greatest among you will be your servant. ¹²For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

— Matthew 23:11–12 (NIV)