



## Million Dollar Questions - Jesus asked them. How will you answer them?

### Why are you so hypocritical? - Week 3

*This resource can be used to guide your personal anchoring time throughout the week, a small group discussion, or even a one-on-one conversation.*

#### **READ**

Begin by reading **Matthew 7:1-5**.

- As you read, underline or highlight the challenge in these verses.
- What is your favorite TV show competition? What makes that show entertaining to you?
- What questions do you have after reading these verses?

#### **REFLECT**

One of Jesus' million dollar questions is: "Why are you so hypocritical?" That's a jarring question. Hypocrisy is one of the easiest actions to identify in others, while at the same time being so simple to overlook in our own lives. Hypocrisy is like having tunnel vision, where we expect from others what we exempt from ourselves. It's applying a double standard in which we marginalize our own sin. To live in the wisdom of Jesus, we have to look.

- *Reread Matthew 7:1-5*. How does Jesus define hypocrisy? Do you agree with His definition?
- What is the difference between a sound judgment and being judgmental?
- How has it felt to be on the receiving-end of a hypocritical judgment?
- How has double-standards impacted the way the world views Christians?
- Tunnel vision is expecting from others what we exempt and fail to see in ourselves. Where do you feel like God is identifying hypocrisy or "tunnel vision" in your life?
- Continued evaluation is critical for Christ-followers so that we might avoid hypocrisy.
  - *Read Psalm 139:23-24*. How can spending time in Scripture each day help with the process of continuous evaluation of yourself?
  - *Read 1 John 1:9*. What role does confession have in avoiding the pitfall of hypocrisy?

#### **PRAY**

Begin your time of prayer by reading Psalm 139:23-24 . Read it slowly. Now, use this verse to guide your prayer. To get you started...

**FOCUS** on the everlasting love and plan of God.

**THANK** Jesus for his faithfulness and justness as he forgives you for your sin.

**CONFESS** where have you been hypocritical in your life and faith.

**ASK** God to help you confess and acknowledge to others where you have applied a double standard.

**\*Keep going this week by reading these scriptures:**

James 1:22-23

Ephesians 1:7

Psalm 103:12

Colossians 1:13-14

