

Hope for Hypocrites – Pastor Brody Loewen – Matthew 23:1-39

## NOTE FROM PASTOR JONATHAN

This is a passage with tons of stuff, so there's a lot I didn't cover. As always, don't feel the need to ask every question. Pick a few that will lead to a good discussion for your group!

Glad to see all those who came to the prayer summit. I was so blessed and honored to pray for several people who came up. Let's keep praying.

As a reminder, we have a Life Group Leader training coming up on March 29 for all *current* and *potential* Life Group leaders! We'll have a panel with different leaders (including Pastor Ray!) as well as a hot breakfast. Register soon via the link from my email!

Also, we have an exciting Men's Event coming up! Join the men for a Men's Ministry Full Hot Breakfast! Pastor Ray will walk the lads through Chapter 5: Prioritize Your Church from *Run to Win* by Tim Challies. Guys will learn how the local church is central to God's plan—both for the world and our own lives. Come ready for practical insights, real conversations, and meaningful growth as we dig into God's Word, strengthen our faith, and equip ourselves to run the race with purpose. And, of course, some friendship, fellowship, and a FULL HOT BREAKFAST! <https://willingdon.org/events/mens-fellowship/>

## QUESTION OVERVIEW

Please select whichever questions you feel will help your group dig deeper into God's Word.

Let's Warm Up: Questions to break the ice.

1. What are some examples of "do as I say, not as I do"?
2. Have you ever been distracted by something obviously fake in a movie, TV show, or video?
3. Is there something you easily notice, but others don't?
4. Has someone ever called you out on something that led to a positive change?

Let's Get Started: Questions to start thinking about the main themes.

5. When are people tempted to behave hypocritically, and why?
6. What are the dangers of blindly following leaders such as pastors?

Let's Dig In: Questions to discuss the passage and how we can respond.

7. What gets Jesus angry?
8. What words or phrases does Jesus repeat in this passage? Do you see any themes?
9. Why is it bad to only look spiritual and good on the outside?
10. What does humble leadership look like?
11. How can we prevent spiritual blindness?
12. Pastor Brody said, "The Pharisees were good at finding loopholes and exceptions to the law for themselves." What loopholes are we tempted to use?
13. How can we respond to Jesus' compassion?