

Study Guide for September 22nd, 2002. Series: Following Jesus. Luke 11:37-44 Hypocrisy Exposed I

1. When you think of a **hypocrite**, what comes to your mind? Where do you see **hypocrisy** in your life?
2. Ritualism Exposed (Luke 11:37-38) Jesus was chided for eating with tax collectors and sinners, (Luke 5:29-30), but here he accepts an invitation to eat with the Pharisees. Note Jesus' pattern . . .
 - A. Summarize the record of Jesus' other conversations with Pharisees? Was he a **nice** dinner guest?
 1. Read Luke 7:36-50:
 2. Read Luke 14:1-24:
 - B. Why was this Pharisee **surprised** that, "Jesus did not first wash before the meal?" (Mk. 7:1-5)
 - C. In what ways do we set up **rituals** that interfere with the message of the gospel?
3. Evil Exposed (Luke 11:39-41) Jesus rebuked the Pharisees for focusing on external (ceremonial) cleansing, while neglecting the more important matter of internal righteousness.
 - A. What particular sin does he highlight here? What is the righteous antidote to that sin?
 - B. What further sins does Jesus mention in Mark's parallel account (Mk. 7:20-23)?
 - C. Record what the following passages teach about the condition of the human heart.
 - 1) Prov. 20:9:
 - 2) Eccles. 9:3:
 - 3) Jer. 17:9:
 - D. Comment on the following by Dallas Willard, "Denial is the primary device that humans use to deal with their own wrongness. . . We must see the soul and the person in its ruined condition, . . . before we can understand that it must be delivered and reformed and how that can be done."
4. Neglect Exposed (Luke 11:42)
 - A. Was it right for the Pharisees to **tithe** their spices? (see Lev. 27:30-33)
 - B. What did they miss by counting "mint and rue?" (see also Mark 7:9-13)
 - C. How are we guilty of neglecting weightier matters at the expense of the trivial?
5. Self-aggrandizement Exposed (Luke 11:43)
 - A. What does Jesus expose by stating that the Pharisees "love the most important seats?"
 - B. When do you succumb to wanting human recognition? What is the answer (II Cor. 5:14-15)?
6. Corruption Exposed (Luke 11:44)
 - A. What would the image of an, "unmarked grave" communicate? (see Matt. 23:27-28)
 - B. How have you observed **corruption that defiles** in the church?