

SAY WHAT?

Discussion Notes

YOU HYPOCRITE

- What does 'hypocrisy' mean to you? Is the image of an actor helpful?
- Where is hypocrisy obvious in the church worldwide? What damage does it do?
- Where have you struggled with hypocrisy in your own life?

Read through Matthew 23:1-12. You may just want to spend the discussion time going through this passage as a Bible study. Or, use Kate's questions as a springboard for discussion.

Matthew 23:2-4: "Do I care more about being right than being loving?"

- Kate said, "If the overarching principle of our life and motivation for our actions isn't love, then we are hypocrites." Do you agree?
- What examples can you think of when people in church have been more concerned with their theology than their humanity, just like the Pharisees?
- Is it possible to believe the right things but behave the wrong way?

Matthew 23:5-7: "Am I more concerned with what's on the outside than what is on the inside?"

- What does this look like in your life?
- Where are you tempted to put on a show of righteousness?
- How can we grow deeper in the secret life of prayer, worship and relationship with Jesus?

Matthew 23:8-12: "Does my faith centre on me or on Jesus?"

- What are the signs that our faith is more about me than Jesus?
- Have you ever been guilty of looking for a role in church to give you affirmation?
- When does jealousy or looking for attention get in the way of our faith?
- How can we centre our faith on Jesus?

As always, we really recommend spending some times praying together. You might want to make this a more significant part of your Hub times at the moment, both as we deal with lockdown but also some challenging subject matter that might leave people feeling a bit convicted!

