



Sermon discussion guide

August 6, 2023

Missing It

Read Luke 11:37-44. Where is Jesus? Who is he talking to? What do you think is his tone?

Who were the Pharisees? What are the groups in our culture that run the risk of being like the Pharisees?

Dishes

What does Jesus say about the Pharisees and dishes?

What do you think cleaning pots and dishes meant for the Pharisees? What do you think it was supposed to help them remember?

What does Jesus say they are full of? What's the contrast he is making here?

How are people today more concerned about what others see than the inside? What externals do we tend to focus on today?

Why do you think Jesus is more concerned about what's on the inside? Do you feel like you spend more time thinking about the outside or the inside in your own life? Why?

Spices

What was a tithe, and what was it for?

What character trait do you think is supposed to develop? Jesus says the Pharisees neglected justice and love of God.

Seats

How were the Pharisees only concerned about their reputations?

What are some ways we try to self-promote today? Why do you think it is easy to look out for only ourselves?

How can you show humility with those you interact with regularly?

Graves

Read Matthew 23:13. How does this verse help us understand why Jesus comes down so hard on the Pharisees?

This conversation has been about focusing on externals, lacking love and justice, and self-promotion. How can doing those things turn people away from Jesus?

How could a focus on religious practice—instead of changing our heart—confuse people about following Jesus?

What's one area that you feel like you need to focus on this week? What's one step you can take to grow?

Serve

Discuss how your group can serve someone else this summer. Maybe it is a group project, or maybe it is filling a need at church. Talk about summer serving options and think through how you can work together to meet a need