



These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family, and/or with a group.

**THE ENEMY OF FAITH IS NOT DOUBT; IT IS UNEXPRESSED DOUBT. THE CHURCH SHOULD BE A PLACE WHERE ANYONE CAN ASK “BUT WHAT ABOUT...?” AND FACE SOME OF FAITH’S TOUGHEST QUESTIONS WITH HONESTY AND CONVICTION. THAT’S WHAT THIS SERIES WILL DO.**

- 1** Many reject faith not because they find atheism so compelling but because the version of Christianity they witness is so unattractive. In what ways is this critique fair? How is this critique used in ways that is not fair?
- 2** **JESUS IS the #1 critic of fake spirituality. Read Matthew 6:2, 5, 16.** Why is the practice of religion so susceptible to focus on the external? How has this been a struggle for you?
- 3** Nothing Jesus did made more enemies than his critique of hypocritical religion. **Read Matthew 23:13.** How does hypocrisy keep others from entering the kingdom of God?
- 4** **HYPOCRISY IS a struggle for non-Christians as well.** Hypocrisy is not just a Christian problem; it is a human condition (there is some fake in all of us). How have you seen this to be true? How can this truth be used to help those who are far from God?
- 5** Jesus is a critic of fake spirituality but he encourages his followers to “*Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven*” (**Matthew 5:16**). How is that different from what we’ve been talking about and what conviction or encouragement do you find from it?
- 6** **AUTHENTICITY IS about direction, not perfection.** Hypocrisy is always a sin, but not all sin is hypocrisy. Christians still sin, but they are serious about being transformed into the image of Jesus. **Read Romans 8:29 & Philippians 1:6.** What do these verses imply about the direction of the authentic Christian life? What is one thing that God is still working on in your life?
- 7** Christianity stands or falls on the person of Jesus, not on the performance of Christians. Ultimately, it comes down to this question: **Is Jesus the real deal?** Why should the shortcomings of his followers not discredit his life and claims? How can you help “**your one**” investigate the life and claims of Jesus?

