

A MEAL WITH JESUS

“A Meal with a Pharisee”

January 22, 2012

Luke 11:37:44 (ESV)

LG STUDY GUIDE

QUICK REVIEW

God seeks inward transformation over outward piety.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. As best as you can remember, as you left the sanctuary on Sunday, what idea, verse or truth stayed with you the most?

2. Have you ever put on a “spiritual show” -- i.e., your outward religious performance was right, but your heart for God wasn't? Describe the circumstance and share what happened.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Why do you think Jesus and his disciples didn't follow the Pharisees' practice of ritual washing before meals? (Luke 11:38; see also Mark 7:14-23). What is Jesus' priority?

2. What examples can you think of for modern-day Christians that illustrate cleansing the outside of the cup but leaving the inside unwashed? (Luke 11:39-40). What are the consequences of outward piety that is void of inward transformation?

3. Here's a quote from Sunday's sermon: “Jesus invites you to drop the mask. God already knows what's behind the mask and he still accepts you. You are secure in his love. Thus, it is safe for you to abandon the pretense, admit your need, and ask God to transform you from the inside out.” In your own words, describe “spiritual hypocrisy.” What prevents Christians from dropping their masks and admitting their need? What prevents you?

TAKING IT HOME

1. In what ways do you see Pharisaical attitudes or tendencies in yourself? How can you counter them? How can your LifeGroup help?

2. Share your needs (as you are comfortable) and pray for one another for Jesus to meet you and transform you from the inside-out.

** Today's message will be available on CD next week in the YNCC office. Previous weeks' sermons are also available on CD and viewable online at www.ynccla.org/sermons.

