

# STUDY GUIDE

## Matthew 23

We just celebrated Thanksgiving.  
Share one thing for which you are thankful to God.

Read Matthew 23:1-39

Who are some people who have influenced you? Consider parents, pastors, teachers, political leaders, and authors. Think about not only the positive influences but also the negative influences.

Why do you think Jesus condemns the religious leaders before the whole community in Jerusalem?



From the sermon what did you learn about phylacteries, tassels, and Moses seat?  
What would be some modern equivalents?

Think of all the 'religious' activities you do (like serving on a committee, reading the Bible, being in a small group and so forth). Are there any of these in which you are inclined to do just for the approval of others?

How are the motives of the disciples to be different from that of the religious leaders?

Re read verses 3, 25 - 28. Jesus condemns the religious leaders for confusing inward and outward righteousness.

In what ways are we inclined do this today?

What challenge does this present to you?



What warnings and hope does chapter 23 offer us today as we seek to live out our faith?

Re read verses 37-39

What do you think God would want you to take from these verses?

*Pray for one another.*