

# “Am I Religious?”

Luke 11:37-54 - Pastor Bruce French

## What do Christ-followers practice?

1. Christ-followers practice \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 11:42

### Challenge...

- View others as \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Christ-followers practice \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 11:43-44

### Challenge...

- View service as \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Christ-followers practice \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 11:45-46

### Challenge...

- View holiness as a \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Christ-followers practice \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 11:47-51

### Challenge...

- View the past as \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Christ-followers practice \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 11:52

### Challenge...

- View Christ as the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Take Home Truth

Real \_\_\_\_\_ has real \_\_\_\_\_. Luke 11:39-41

### Today's Core Virtue:

**Humility:** I choose to esteem others above myself.  
*(from Philippians 2:3-4)*

### Today's Action:

Determine which of these 5 practices God is currently developing in you. Commit to carrying out that particular challenge this week.



## Deeper Connection Study

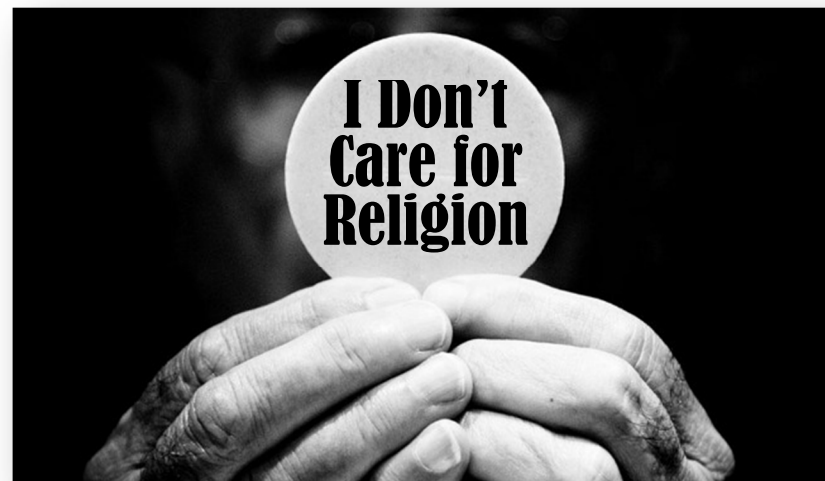
A Pharisee invites Jesus to dinner – this ought to be interesting! What transpires is a lively discussion, though it's mostly a monologue. As the religious leaders interact with Jesus, their religiosity is exposed as harmful to the people and Jesus is not holding back with his opinion.

*Today's Core Virtue discussed: Humility.*

### Read Luke 11:37-54

1. What bothers the host about Jesus' dinner behavior (vv. 37-38; cf. Matt. 15:1-2; Mark 7:3-4)? How does Jesus respond (vv. 39-41)?
2. What three woes does Jesus give to the Pharisees (vv. 42-44)? What is the focus of their attitudes and actions?
3. How are the next three woes against the scribes/lawyers similar (vv. 46-52)? What three flaws are revealed about their behavior?
4. What is the condition of the religious leaders' hearts? How do you think they got this way?
5. How susceptible are you to concentrating on external religious performance to the neglect of your inner spiritual character? In what ways do you tend to be "religious" and why do you think this happens?
6. How can you live more obediently, passionately, and joyfully for Christ?

**PRAYER TO THE POINT:** Praise God for the life-giving message of Christ! Ask God to reveal any obstacles in your life that hinder you from following him. Pray for God to help you live more obediently, passionately, and joyfully for Christ.



January 7, 2018 - Luke 11:37-54

**T**oday begins a new section in our study of Luke, which launches a new series. In the narrative that is contained in the next two chapters, there are a number of confrontations that Jesus has with the religious leaders of his day. The common denominator of these confrontations the Lawyers and Pharisees initiated was that Jesus was not religious. In fact, the first confrontation was birthed out of one of the Pharisee's irritation with Jesus over the fact that he didn't follow the religious practice of "ceremonial hand-washing" before he ate.

The fascinating aspect of these volatile confrontations is that many people in our culture today feel the same way that Jesus did, they don't like religion. Also, like Jesus, their main annoyance with religion is the hypocrisy that often accompanies it. The tragedy of this common perspective is that these folks place Christianity in the same religious category. This invites a couple of questions, "Have we become religious?" and "Are our practices and behaviors the same as any other religion," and if not, "What sets us apart?"

