

What would Jesus undo- My Hypocrisy

Welcome

Share stories of when you have experienced people being “two-faced”. Maybe from childhood or school. (Try and come with an example to start the discussion). How did this make you feel?

Where are the ways that we can see hypocrisy in our world today?

Why do you think people are quick to say that Christians are hypocrites?

(2 main areas: professing a belief in something then acting in a way contrary to that belief, and looking down on others when we are flawed ourselves)

Word

Describe how you feel or what you think about when you hear the word “hypocrisy”?

We learnt that hypocrisy literally means “hiding behind a mask”.

How do you react to hypocrisy in other people? Why? How would you react if you were accused of hypocrisy? Why?

What kind of masks did you wear growing up? How did you show yourself as someone you weren't?

In what area of your life might you struggle to show your honest self?

The battle for hypocrisy doesn't take place on an external level; it takes place in our heart? Let's check our heart motivation.

Matthew 6:1

Be especially careful when you are trying to be good so that you don't make a performance out of it. It might be good theatre, but the God who made you won't be applauding.

Describe some of the subtle ways we might seek the praise of people for what we do.

Read Matthew 7:3-5

What “specks” do you find yourself maybe judging others for most often?

Where might there be a plank in our own?

Response

Reflect for a few moments on what Jesus might need to do in order to ‘undo’ any hypocrisy within you. As David said, ask God to search your heart and see where you may be wearing any masks.

Have we allowed hypocrisy to poison us, our relationships or even our witness?

If comfortable, share with the group and pray for each other.

At the start of the next session, feedback on what Jesus has been doing in your ego and challenge each other to keep looking into it.

Pray for opportunities to invite family and friends to the Christmas Production and this would start people on a journey of knowing Jesus.