

Message June 19
Ekklesia #6

We Should Be Authentic Followers of Christ

- I. Welcome & Prayer
- II. Message (45 min total)
 - a. We Should Be Authentic Followers of Christ
 - b. The problem
 - c. Reveal the challenge
 - i. K#1 The Challenge – To Be Authentic Before God and Others in a Way That Brings Honor to God
- III. Intro skits (2 min)
 - a. The Conspiracy (2 min)
 - b. The Family Factor (2 min)
 - c. The Spoken Word (4.5 min)
- IV. Define Hypocrisy
 - a. K#2 Hypocrisy: the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's own behavior does not conform; pretense.
 - b. K#3 Lion meme
 - i. Matt 7:3-5
 - 1. ³And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? ⁴Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? ⁵Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

ii. *Matt 5:13-16*

1. *"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men."¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden."¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house."¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.*

c. Within the Church

d. Outside the Church

V. How does this happen?

a. K#4 The two reasons people practice hypocrisy:

- i. They're trying to purposely mislead, or
- ii. They aren't able to sustain who they profess to be because unwanted things within them which continue to rise to the surface.
- iii. Both reasons indicate there is a hidden problem.

b. Red Flags that We Have Shadowy Areas in Our Hearts

- i. K#5 We become fixated on external preferences instead of internal devotion.
- ii. K#6 We become fixated on commitment/tasks instead of our heart and other people.
- iii. K#7 We hide our double standards with strict rules (usually for others).
- iv. K#8 We have areas of our lives that remain untransformed because we ignore them, hide them, and sweep them under the rug

v. K#9 Quote: "No man, for any considerable period of time, can wear one face to himself and another to the multitude without finally getting bewildered as to which may be the truth."

N. Hawthorne

VI. The Answer for the Untransformed Heart

1. Col 3:8-17

a. ⁸ But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, ¹⁰ and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, ¹¹ where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all. ¹² Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. ¹⁴ But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. ¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

b.

- i. Transparency & accountability
- ii. Repentance

- iii. Seeking authentic emotional and spiritual health
- iv. Mercy and Grace-the hallmark of the believer

VII. Altar Call