

# JOIN THE JOURNEY™

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MATTHEW 23

WEEK 51

### “Woe to You and Me”

*Matthew 23:27*

*“Woe to you, experts in the law and you Pharisees, hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs that look beautiful on the outside but inside are full of the bones of the dead and of everything unclean.”*

#### ❖ ICE BREAKER

1. How would you define a hypocrite?
2. Who are the Pharisees and teachers of the law? Who fills that role in today’s time?

#### ❖ DISCUSSION

3. What do you learn about the character of Jesus in this chapter and how does it compare to the “timid and mild” reputation the world has placed on Him?
4. In verse 4 of Chapter 23, Jesus talks about how the teachers of the law at that time were guilty of tying up heavy loads and putting them on men’s shoulders. In what ways is your faith today an unhealthy burden for you? How about a healthy burden?
5. Throughout Chapter 23, Jesus makes several analogies to bring home the point of the Pharisees’ hypocrisy. Where do you need to humble yourself instead of seeking a place of honor (v. 5-12)? How are you caring for the less fortunate (v. 13-14)? To what extent are you portraying a clean outside, while your heart is full of greed and self-indulgence (v. 25-28)?

#### ❖ CASE STUDY

Compare and contrast Matthew 23 with The Beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-12.

