



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Sermon: **Matthew 23:16-22**

Date: **February 27, 2022**

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the teaching and bible passage this week?
2. What does the Old Testament teach us about the solemnity of an oath?
3. Explain from the text the false distinction the Pharisees invented to determine which oaths are binding and which oaths are not.
4. How does Jesus respond to this Pharisaical nonsense? Explain his response in verses 17 and 19.
5. Several times Jesus accuses the Pharisees of being “blind.” Why? What does he mean by this?
6. Often times we do not know when we’re spiritually blind to certain realities. How can we then examine ourselves to see if we any blind spots in our lives? How can we discern whether we are following a “blind guide?” What sorts of signs ought we to look for?
7. How do the Pharisees demonstrate their dishonesty in this text? The Pharisees were dishonest because they feared man. Why is the fear of man usually at the root of dishonesty?
8. Pastor Jacob taught us that a consciousness of God’s presence – that he is everywhere and sees all – helps us to fight sin, tell the truth, and live consistently. How does this work? What can we do to cultivate a greater awareness of God’s presence in our lives so that we can live this way?