



## SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Sermon: **Matthew 23:29-33**

Date: **March 20, 2022**

### Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the teaching and bible passage this week?
2. What is the point of a text like this in terms of how it affects our own sanctification? As Christians, what should texts like these in Matthew 23 do to our hearts? Explain.
3. Explain what Jesus is exposing about the Pharisees in verses 29-31.
4. Why is there a tendency within our sinful hearts to be quick to honour courageous prophets/spiritual heroes of the past, while also being quick to condemn courageous prophets of the present?
5. Explain verse 32. What does Jesus mean when he says to the Pharisees, "Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers"?
6. Jesus refers to the Pharisees and scribes as "serpents" and a "brood of vipers" in verse 33. Why do you think Jesus reserves his harshest language for religious hypocrites? What about their sin and situation warrants such strong condemnation? What does this teach us about religious hypocrisy?
7. The Pharisees lacked self-awareness. Why is self-awareness and regular self-reflection so important and necessary for the Christian life? How can we seek to have develop a continual self-awareness so that we can avoid falling into the hypocritical traps of inconsistent living that the Pharisees fell into?