

THE PROBLEM OF GOD: Hypocrisy

September 16th, 2018

Reading Plan

Day 1-

READ: [Proverbs 3:5-8](#)

REFLECT: Physical health is an important part of our life in this modern world. On any given day, you're likely to hear about the latest and greatest way to enhance your physical health. What does this scripture say brings about true health? How might you live differently if you viewed your spiritual health as important and life giving as your physical health?

PRACTICE: Pray that your desire for spiritual health would be as important as your desire for physical health. Ask God to show you where you might be lacking. Ask Him to show you the way toward spiritual health.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: "5 Ways to Live the God-Centered Life" from The Gospel Coalition-
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/5-ways-to-live-the-god-centered-life/>

REFLECT: What are the five ways to live a God centered life according to this article?

PRACTICE: Pick one of the suggestions and make a plan to implement it into your life.

Day 2-

READ: [1 John 2:3-6](#)

REFLECT: The biggest defense we have in avoiding hypocrisy and being in judgment of others; is to know the word of God. It's only there that we'll find the true Jesus and his true teaching. What does verse 6 say we need to do if we claim to follow Jesus?

PRACTICE: Write out verse 6 somewhere that you'll see it daily. Make it your prayer to know Jesus well enough and deep enough that you continue to be more and more like Him.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: "Treasure, Freedom, and Knowing Jesus Better: Praying Philippians 3:7-10" from The Gospel Coalition- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/scotty-smith/treasure-freedom-and-knowing-jesus-better-praying-phil-37-10/>

REFLECT: Knowing Jesus brings true freedom and joy! The more we know him, the more we'll become like him.

PRACTICE: Print this prayer (or write it out in your journal), and refer back to it as often as you need a reminder.

Day 3-

READ: [Psalm 25:4-5](#)

REFLECT: King David acknowledges that God is the only one with the answers on how to live a God-honoring life. What are the action words that David uses in this passage?

PRACTICE: Pray the same prayer over your life that King David prays over his. As you pray, ask that your heart be open to the plans God has for your life.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

WATCH: "Tell the Truth", a training from Right Now Media (for a FREE RNM account, visit <https://whoisgrace.com/rightnowmedia/>) - <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Training/Post/Preview/188260>

REFLECT: Why is speaking the truth so important?

PRACTICE: What is something you can do today in order to speak the truth in a more loving and compassionate way?

Day 4-

READ: [Romans 5:6-8](#)

REFLECT: In his sermon, Pastor Derek reminds us that the church is made up of broken people – people who have messed up, screwed up, and sinned against God. Time and time again, throughout scripture, Jesus interacts with the worst of sinners. Those are the people he came for. What do you think is the significance of the word “still” in this passage? How does it change your view on who is the sinner?

PRACTICE: Pray and ask God to reveal to you those you might have placed judgment on, those who you might consider “not good enough.” Pray for them. Ask God to become real in their life. Ask God to remove the judgments you may place on other people. Ask Him to help you recognize the areas of sin in your life that need dealt with.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

LISTEN: “New Wine”, a worship song from Hillsong-
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ozGKIOzEVc>

REFLECT: What “old flames” do you need to lay down at the feet of Jesus?

PRACTICE: Pray and ask God to make a “new fire” out of your life. Have a moment of reflective repentance – where are the areas in your life that you need to lay before Jesus. Ask him to take those things and turn them into something for his glory.

Day 5

READ: [John 8:2-11](#)

REFLECT: In this passage, as the people are pouring judgment on the woman, Jesus asks the people to reflect on their own lives and their own sin. What does he reveal to everyone at the courts? What would happen if every time you started to think less of someone, or judge them for their behavior, you asked yourself “am I without sin?” (*adapted from Connexus Church).

PRACTICE: Is there someone in your life whom you have wrongly judged? Find a way to apologize to that person – whether in person, or in a moment of prayer to God.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: “The Making of a Modern Pharisee” from Desiring God-
<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/the-making-of-a-modern-pharisee>

REFLECT: This is a heavy article about the dangers of hypocrisy in the modern world. What is your biggest takeaway?

PRACTICE: If you recognize any of the symptoms in your life, repent to God and ask for his forgiveness and healing.