



## Hosted by Hypocrites • Part 1

Lesson 6 • Luke 11:37-54

*Growing up was it a rule in your home to wash your hands before eating? What happened if you didn't?*

### What's the Big Idea of Luke 11:37-54?

*Hypocrisy is a deceptively **DEADLY** dish that locks the **DOOR** to knowing God and dining with Jesus in His coming kingdom!*

### Setting for Being Hosted by Hypocrites

*"Now when He had spoken, a Pharisee asked Him to have lunch with him; and He went in and reclined at the table." (v. 37)*

### The Invitation to Lunch

- A Pharisee **INVITES** Jesus to lunch in his home. (v. 37a)
- Jesus **ENTERS** the pharisees home from mingling with the large crowds. (v. 37b)

**See Handout:** Short Course on the Pharisees

- Jesus **RECLINES** at the table: *"What's for lunch? I'm starving! Let's eat!"* (v. 37c)
- The Pharisee is **AMAZED** Jesus doesn't "immerse" His hands before eating. (vv. 38, 14)

**The Inspection Before Lunch:** *"But the LORD said to him..."* (v. 39)

### External Holiness Without Internal Holiness Is Hypocritical

#### 1. The Heart of the Problem Is Always the **HEART**. (vv. 39-41)

- **Heart Problem:** *You're always washing what's outside but what's inside is **FILTHY**.* (v. 39)

**What's the problem?** Our hearts are full of **DEPRAVITY!** *Ephesians 2:1-3*

*"full of robbery" – Colossians 3:5; Philippians 2:5-6*

*"full of wickedness" – Acts 3:26*

- **Heart Principle:** *Only an immoral **FOOL** forgets the God who created both the outside and the inside.* (v. 40)
- **Heart Priority & Practice:** *Give what's **INSIDE** you as a sacrificial gift and all will be clean.* (v. 41)  
*1 Samuel 16:7; Matthew 15:18; Proverbs 4:23*

## 2. Heart Inspection: 3 Woes for LEGALISTS. (vv. 42-44)

### Three Reminders

1. A “woe” is the communication of a divine THREAT.
2. A “woe” is an invitation to LAMENT.
3. A “woe” is a revelation of divine GRACE.

**One Warning:** *Jesus is inspecting our hearts today!*

### Jesus’ Gracious Warnings to Hypocritical Rule-Makers

**1st Woe:** You Major on MINORS and Miss Out on Both! (v. 42)

- MAJORED on the minors: *Tithing their garden spices!*
- MISSED the majors: *Passed by being just to others and loving God!*
- Majors and minors both MATTER: *Attend to the heart and right attitudes and actions will follow in both major and minor things.*

**2nd Woe:** You Focus on SELF and Forget God! (v. 43)

*2 Timothy 3:1-5*

**3rd Woe:** You Are Dead Men WALKING and Defile Others. (v. 44)

*Numbers 19:11-22; Leviticus 21:1-3*

*Hypocrisy is a deceptively deadly dish that not only defiles our own hearts  
but also the hearts of others who learn from us and imitate us!*

- Turns off unbelievers** and keeps them from the truth of the gospel, because they see the hypocrisy of the legalists.
- Contaminates young believers**, who are wrongly taught that if they *do certain things* and *not do other things*, they will grow in holiness and be pleasing to God. But majoring on the minors leads to hypocrisy.
- Drives those raised this way** to reject “Christianity” but it’s not. It may take a lifetime to recover from parental hypocrisy and legalistic teaching.
- Remember many Christians** have been saved and learned to serve through the evangelistic efforts of “legalistic” churches. Jesus said we should major on the majors but not neglect the minors. Go and do likewise.

### Invite Jesus to Inspect Your Heart and Reveal Even a Hint of Hypocrisy.

Then repent and seek His forgiveness. And begin feasting on God’s grace in Christ which gives you the Spirit’s power and desire to do His will from the heart!

*“So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.”  
Philippians 2:12-13*