



theridgechurch

LIFEgroup Discussion Questions

I Would Never Do That

October 6, 2013

Text: Matthew 23:39-24:2

1. When you observe the bad behavior of someone else, how many times have you ever said, "I would never do that"? "I can't believe someone would say that or do that to someone else".
2. Read what Jesus said: **"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, and say, 'If we had been living in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'" Matthew 23:29-30**
3. Now read how Jesus responds to them. **"So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell?" Matthew 23:31-33** Have each LIFEgroup member put in their own words what Jesus is telling the scribes and Pharisees.
4. Spend a few moments discussing what was said in the sermon: "This brings us to a frightening conclusion on an individual level. You and I, we have hearts that would murder Jesus, and to think anything different is to flatter ourselves in the same way these scribes and Pharisees did. You and I are not as spectators of the crucifixion but participants - guilty participants, plotting, scheming, betraying, and handing Him over to be crucified." John Stott said, **"Until you see the cross as that which is done by you, you will never appreciate that it is done for you."**
5. In spite of their rejection of Christ, Jesus still show mercy in sending them more messengers in hope that they will respond to salvation. **"Therefore , behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, so that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation." Matthew 23:34-36** Stop your discussion and ask each LIFEgroup member to pray for people "By Name" that they will respond to God's salvation while they can.
6. Pull the group back together and discuss the judgment of God. What happens when the full measure of a person's guilt is full?
7. Close thanking God that He has the heart to save us from our sin and ourselves. **"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, "BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!" Matthew 23:37-39**