

# Image Projection

## Open with Prayer Requests

### Discussion Questions:

- In what ways do people today try to project a certain image?
- Have you ever met someone who presented themselves as kind, generous, or spiritually mature—but their actions didn't match? How did that affect you?

### Read Matthew 23:23–28

- Jesus accused the Pharisees of being more concerned with tithing than with justice, mercy, and faithfulness. Why do you think it's easier to focus on external rules than on inward transformation?
- What do Jesus' images of the "dirty cup" and "whitewashed tombs" teach us about God's priorities for His people?

### Read Acts 4:32–5:11

- What was Ananias and Sapphira's real sin? Why do you think God responded so dramatically?
- In what ways do we Christians sometimes try to "appear" more spiritual or generous than we really are?

### Read Matthew 7:15–20

- What does it practically mean to look at the fruit of someone's life? How can we do this without becoming cynical or judgmental?
- Why do you think it's so easy to be deceived by appearances, even inside the church?

### Personal Application

- Do you ever feel the temptation to "wear a mask" when you come to church or small group? Why or why not?
- What steps can our church take to become the kind of community where masks aren't needed?
- How can we keep one another accountable to focus more on the "inside of the cup" than the outside?
- What fruit do you want your life to produce over the next year? How can we pray for you in that?

### Closing Prayer