

# Family Table Talk

Opportunity  
Christian Fellowship

for the week of October 29, 2017

Read it . . .

Matthew  
23:1-12

Discuss and apply the truth of God's Word as a family.

## A Story of False Teachers

God wanted His people, the Israelites, to be a different kind of people. They were supposed to be a people who loved God with all their hearts, souls, strength, and minds; and love their neighbors, too.

As a sign of how different they were supposed to be, God made laws instructing them to even look different. They weren't supposed to wear tattoos, for example, like the people around them did. They were supposed to wear blue tassels on their clothes. Since God told them to

keep His Law on their minds and hearts, when they prayed they tied little boxes with Bible verses rolled up inside called *phylacteries* around their head and left arm (so it would be close to their heart) when they prayed.

But by Jesus' day, the teachers of the law were more concerned with *looking* holy, than they were with *being* holy. They wore big phylacteries and wore long tassels so everyone could see how much better they were at keeping God's Law. That's not very loving, though, is it.

<p><b><u>Sunday</u></b></p> <p>Read Matthew 23:1-4</p> <p>What does the word "hypocrite" mean? Look it up in a dictionary or dictionary app.</p>	<p><b><u>Monday</u></b></p> <p>Read Matthew 23:5-12</p> <p>What is the difference between <i>looking</i> holy and how Jesus teaches us to <i>live</i> holy?</p>	<p><b><u>Tuesday</u></b></p> <p>Read Matthew 23:4</p> <p>Exactly 500 years ago tonight, Martin Luther called out the teachers in the Church for falling into the same trap as the Pharisees. Being a follower of Jesus isn't a costume.</p>
<p><b><u>Wednesday</u></b></p> <p>Read Psalms 107:1-7</p> <p>Halloween is over, and it's November! Thanksgiving is coming! But you don't need a holiday to be thankful! Give thanks by telling a story of a time God helped you!</p>	<p><b><u>Thursday</u></b></p> <p>Read Joshua 3:7-17</p> <p>God didn't stop the flooding river and then told the Israelites to cross. When did He stop the water?</p>	<p><b><u>Friday</u></b></p> <p>Read 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13</p> <p>Look at Paul's example. How did he <i>live</i> holy instead of <i>look</i> holy?</p>

### Memory Verse: Matthew 23:11-12

The greatest among you must be a servant. But those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

### Coming Up Next Week:

A Story About Ten Bridesmaids