



1. Jesus displays his church. Be the sign for the skeptic. (1-4)

The error of the Pharisees and Sadducees was that they were looking in the wrong place for a sign. Jesus had already done so much to show he was God. Changed lives were all around them. What or who has been the greatest “sign” to you of Jesus’ reality as Lord?

Do you ever ask God for a “sign” of his existence, love, or care for you? What motivates this according to v. 4?

Read Jonah 3:1-10. Did the people of Nineveh require a sign before they believed? What was the result of Jonah’s message? Do you require more than the direct confrontation with the truth before you repent?

The greatest sign that Jesus has is the change that he has made in the lives of those who have met him. Are you boldly displaying and proclaiming the difference Jesus has made in your life? How? What affect is it having on those around you? Should you expect the respond to be any different than the one Jesus got from the Pharisees and Sadducees? Is it difficult for you to trust God with the results?

2. Jesus warns his church. Beware of hypocrisy. (5-12)

Why is hypocrisy such a threat to the influence of the church?

How have you seen hypocrisy destroy your influence or the influence of others? Is Hypocrisy destroying the influence of the church? What can be done about it?

Read the following effects of hypocrisy. How do they apply to you?

- Hypocrisy hides spiritual need behind the mask of religion.
- Hypocrisy pretends to be something it is not.
- Hypocrisy refuses to be real.
- Hypocrisy prevents you from getting close enough to be known for fear that you will not be loved.
- Hypocrisy creates phony, self-righteous, ceremonial, critical, cynics that only find fault in others.





3. Jesus builds his church. Be committed to the team that prevails. (13-20)

Is it spiritually possible to love Christ and not love his church?

What is the significance of the question, "Who do you say Jesus is?" So...who do you say Jesus is?

The church is a community of people bound only by what they believe about Jesus. How are members of a church to determine who is part of their community? Is it more than who attends the gathered worship services? If so, what?

Do you have a resistance to church membership at Harvest? Have you talked to some who do? Why does Harvest require people to apply for membership? Why do we ask for a written testimony of faith? Why do we require an applicant to have an interview with an elder or pastor? Do you appreciate this? Has this process kept you from becoming a member at Harvest? Why or why not?

Are you a tool Jesus is using to build his church? How and where are you serving? What evidence do you see that God is using you to build his church?

What evidence do you see that Jesus is building his church at Harvest Granger? Do you think he is finished? What should you do to prepare for the next season of growth?

Additional Scripture

2 Peter 2:1-7

Jonah 3 & 4

Hebrew 10:23-25

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Acts 2:41-47

