

*The Insiders are Out*

Flip the Script – Part 6

Matthew 23 & 9

September 8, 2019

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Q. What kickoff are you excited about this weekend?

Flipping the Script on Insiders:

1. Insiders are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Mt. 23)

Mt. 23:13-15 *"But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. 14 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense you make long prayers; therefore you will receive greater condemnation. 15 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you travel around on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.”*

Mt. 23:2-3*, “The scribes and the Pharisees have seated themselves in the chair of Moses; therefore all that they tell you, do and observe, but do not do according to their deeds; for they say things and do not do them.”*

Two Reasons the Insiders are Out:

1. They keep other people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Mt 23:13-15)
2. They are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Mt 23:16-36)
* Hypocrite –

3 Characteristics of Hypocrite Insiders:

1. They focus on the insignificant and ignore the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Mt. 23:16-24 *"Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, that is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple is obligated.' 17 You fools and blind men! Which is more important, the gold or the temple that sanctified the gold? ... 23 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others. 24 You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!”*

1. They focus on what is seen & ignores the what is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Mt. 23:*25-28 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence. 26 You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also…” 28 So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.”*

1. Their talk is great, their actions are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Mt. 23:29-36 *"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, 30 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.' 31 So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets… 34 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…”*

1. Outsiders are \_\_\_\_\_. (Mt. 9:9-13)

Mt. 9:9-13 *As Jesus went on from there, He saw a man called Matthew, sitting in the tax collector's booth; and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he got up and followed Him… 12 But when Jesus heard this, He said, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick. 13 But go and learn what this means: 'I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT SACRIFICE,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."*

* Tax Collectors -
* Sinners -

Point:

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. Have you ever seen 21st C, religious insiders act like an insider who’s out? Have you ever known a church, or a priest, or a pastor, or an evangelist, or a Christian layperson, do more to keep people from God and lead people to God’s love?
2. How are you a religious insider? An insider with Jesus? How do you feel like a religious outsider? An outsider to Jesus?
3. As an insider, how are your words and actions helping other people come into Christ’s love and grace? How are your words and actions keeping people out?
4. How is your faith focused on the minute instead of the main thing?
5. How is your faith focused on the outside instead of the inside?
6. How is your faith more about talk than actions?
7. What would it look like to have a faith that helps other people get in?