

Sermon Notes

Love the Lord and People, Rather Than Loving Attention and Honor

Matthew 23:5-7

Christian Sanich, 3/1/2015

Text sermon questions, during the sermon, to (602) 824-8030

Was Jesus being unloving to condemn the Pharisees' behavior?

23:5 The size of their religious adornments, for people's attention

“They do all their deeds to be noticed by people.”

It should be for the Lord.

Big phylacteries (ref.: Deuteronomy 6:8)

Long tassels (ref.: Numbers 15:37-40)

But are you living the Lord's ways? That is loving Him.

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23:6-7 Their love of being honored and respected

Instead, we should love people.

Helping others feel comfortable or welcome

Listening to others and showing interest

Serving others. Serving the church.

What do you need to do better?

What is your response to this? Discuss it with someone today.

If you would like to receive weekly sermon application questions,
e-mail Christian@StoneCreekBibleChurch.org

Application questions for 3-1-15 sermon Matthew 23:5-7

Do you desire for other people to see you as a really spiritual or a good Christian? And what is the motivation for that?

Regardless of your motivation, is there anything you specifically do to make people think you are a good Christian?

Is it appropriate to care what people think of us as Christians?
(yes, for the sake of our witness, but not for the sake of self-glory)

Are you trying to do what God says in your life?

If you are trying to do what God says (with the power of the Holy Spirit), do you think you are a hypocrite for having failings?

Do you understand living and thinking God's ways, as loving the Lord?

What is something you need to do better, with church people or others, to love people better? In the sermon, three things were talked about (see below), but your answer can be anything.

- 1) Do you need to look for others who might be new, or uncomfortable, and help them feel comfortable or welcome?
- 2) In conversations, do you need to listen better? Listen, rather than just talking? And/or showing interest in what they are saying, rather than thinking about what you are going to say next?
- 3) Do you need to serve? And if you already serve, do you need to do it more humbly. Check your motivation. Do you do it to love the Lord and people?

How, specifically, do you think you might do better at that?