

Galatians 2:11-21 — Hypocrisy

Warm-Up Question:

Do you ever feel like you have to pretend or act differently before certain people?

READ: Galatians 2:11-21

I. HYPOCRISY: The REALITY

- ▶ Why did Peter stop eating with Gentiles and what was the result (v. 12-13)?
- ▶ Paul called this “hypocrisy” (v. 13). Read the quotes in the right column. How was what Peter did hypocritical?
- ▶ Discuss some areas in life where you might struggle with hypocrisy? (Where you: Pretend? Hide the real you? Act differently in public than in private?)

II. HYPOCRISY: The REMEDY

- ▶ What in our heart and inner self motivates us to hypocrisy? What does hypocrisy have to do with our inner need to get approval or be a good person?
- ▶ How then is hypocrisy “not in step with the truth of the gospel” (v. 14)?
- ▶ What does it mean to be “justified” by faith and not by good works (read vs. 15-16 and the definition in the right column)?
- ▶ What does justification by faith (and not how we act) have to do with our acceptance and approval from God? How is that a remedy to our hypocrisy?

III. HYPOCRISY: The RENEWAL

- ▶ Read vs. 19-21 again. How does Jesus feel about you? What did he do for you? What are the objective truths about you as a result?
- ▶ How does what Jesus did motivate you to not “live in the flesh” or act with hypocrisy? How does it motivate you to “live to God” with integrity?

What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?

“A hypocrite wants to impress others with an external façade of religious piety that he knows is devoid of internal spiritual substance.”
Sam Storms

“Hypocrisy is theatrical religion”
- Tim Challies

Q33. What is justification?

Justification is the act of God's free grace by which He pardons all our sins and accepts us as righteous in His sight. He does so only because He counts the righteousness of Christ as ours. Justification is received by faith alone.

“Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching.”
- CS Lewis

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