



Week 1, Day 3

Jesus Criticizes the Religious Leaders

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, “The teachers of religious law and the Pharisees are the official interpreters of the law of Moses. So practice and obey whatever they tell you, but don’t follow their example. For they don’t practice what they teach. They crush people with unbearable religious demands and never lift a finger to ease the burden.

“Everything they do is for show. On their arms they wear extra wide prayer boxes with Scripture verses inside, and they wear robes with extra long tassels. And they love to sit at the head table at banquets and in the seats of honor in the synagogues. They love to receive respectful greetings as they walk in the marketplaces, and to be called ‘Rabbi.’

Matthew 23:1-7

At The Ridge, our mission is to *help people find and follow Jesus*. As you read the next portion of this devotional, consider the **FIND** comments if you are exploring faith or helping others explore their faith. Use the **FOLLOW** section to help you take steps if you are currently following Jesus.

FIND: Who is someone in your life who tries to rule others? How can you show more kindness to that person?

FOLLOW: In what ways do you try to get praise from people? How can you turn this attention to Jesus?