

## The Lie

Acts 5:1-11

### Lying and Testing:

- Whenever we lie to believers we are lying to \_\_\_\_\_ and are testing \_\_\_\_\_ to see if \_\_\_\_\_.

### The Rub:

- Pretending to be \_\_\_\_\_.

*Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean. "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness. (Matthew 23:25-28)*

### The Issues behind the Issues:

- Avoiding \_\_\_\_\_.

*And anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. (Matthew 10:38-39)*

- Audience \_\_\_\_\_.

*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men. (Colossians 3:23)*

## Going Deeper

(This section is for those who want to pursue this subject more deeply by themselves, as a couple or with a group.)

**Scripture:** Matthew 23

1. Wow! Jesus has major issues with the Pharisees! A whole chapter of it! The Pharisees worked so hard yet they failed in God's eyes. Why? What was their motive? (v.5) Why is motive so important?
2. When Jesus tells us that the Pharisees were clean on the outside but not on the inside (vs.25-28) what was the issue? Who can see the inside? Who can see the outside? What was the lie? (v.28)
3. In our culture today how do people do the same things? How do we display a clean outside while hiding a dirty inside? What harm does it do (vs. 4, 15, 24, 26, 28, 35)?
4. How then should Christians live? If Pharisees are the negative example what should we do instead?