

Introduction:**1. What is hypocrisy?**

A. The sin of hypocrisy can be manifested in our lives in numerous ways, such as:

- **By _____ like a devout person, like an actor on a stage, when we are not truly devoted to the Lord.**
- **By appearing to _____ something we're not or to _____ something we don't.**
- **By _____ to have a spirituality that we don't really possess.**

2. Practical instructions for conquering hypocrisy.

A. Try to understand what the life and power of godliness consists of.

B. Make your heart your main work in spiritual things.

C. Be very conscious of the sins of your thoughts, desires, and motives as much as you are of the sins you commit with your hands or tongue.

D. Be faithful to do good when no one is looking except God and your conscience.

E. In public worship, give more effort to worshipping from the heart than with your mouth or hands.

F. Be much more critical of your own flaws than others', and more concerned about reforming yourself than others.

G. Work harder at actually becoming godly than at seeming to be godly.

H. Don't _____ the approval or applause of other people.

Matt 6.2 *“Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.*”

Prov 29.25 *The fear of man lays a snare,
but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe.*

I. Try to counteract the fear of man by seeing every person you interact with as merely “men of _____” whose opinion of you will one day be of little concern to you.

1 Cor 4.3–4 *But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. 4 For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me.*

J. Be most suspicious of hypocrisy in yourself when you’re around the kind of people whose favor or opinion you would highly _____.

- Hypocrisy will wither and die when you dedicate yourself to killing your _____ and self-love.

K. Remember that God can see the _____ about you, and He demands that you worship and serve Him in truth.

John 4.24 *God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.*

John 4.29a *“Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did.*

Mal 1.6–8 *“A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is my fear? says the Lord of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name. But you say, ‘How have we despised your name?’ 7 By offering polluted food upon my altar. But you say, ‘How have we polluted you?’ By saying that the Lord’s table may be despised. 8 When you offer blind animals in sacrifice, is that not evil? And when you offer those that are lame or sick, is that not evil? Present that to your governor; will he accept you or show you favor? says the Lord of hosts.*

Gal 6.7a *Do not be deceived: God is not mocked,*

L. Love the most heart-searching, faithful preaching and Christian books, and be thankful for friends who will speak _____ with you.

John 3.19–21 *And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. 20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. 21 **But whoever does what is true comes to the light**, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”*

Prov 27.6 *Faithful are the wounds of a friend;
profuse are the kisses of an enemy.*

Prov 20.30 *Blows that wound cleanse away evil;
strokes make clean the innermost parts.*

Heb 4.12 *For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and **discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart**.*

M. Always live like you’re going to give an _____ of yourself to the Lord.

Luke 12.1–3 *“Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is **hypocrisy**. 2 **Nothing is covered up that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known**. 3 Therefore whatever you have said in the dark shall be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in private rooms shall be proclaimed on the housetops.*

N. Remember that hypocrisy involves a _____ between your heart and your life, rather than a sincerity of heart and life.

James 1.8 *a double-minded man, [is] unstable in all his ways.*

Eph 6.5 (KJV) *Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, **in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ**;*

Col 3.22 (KJV) *Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; **not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God**:*

Matt 6.24 *“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.*

Psa 12.1–2 *Save, O Lord, for the godly one is gone;
for the faithful have vanished from among the children of man.
2 Everyone utters lies to his neighbor;
with flattering lips and a double heart they speak.*

1 Tim 3.8 Deacons likewise must be dignified, **not double-tongued**, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain.

2 Cor 1.12 For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with **simplicity and godly sincerity**, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you.

O. Understand that sincerity requires _____ about spiritual duties.

1 Pet 5.8 **Be sober-minded**; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

1 Cor 16.13 **Be watchful**, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

2 Pet 3.11 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, **what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness?**

James 1.26–27 If anyone **thinks he is religious** and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. 27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

James 2.14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone **says he has faith** but does not have **works**?

James 2.14–17 What good is it, my brothers, if someone **says he has faith but does not have works**? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, **what good is that?** 17 So also **faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.**

Prov 21.25 The desire of the sluggard kills him,
for his hands refuse to labor.