

0 (1s):

All right. Good morning, everybody. I'm so glad that you're here today. My name is Matt Wolf. I am the lead pastor here at Arise church, and we are so glad that you're here. I want to pray about a couple of things this morning. So we'll have a time of prayer. We, we have, we believe in the multiplication mindset here, right? We talked about that last week that we pursue multiplication over addition to see the kingdom of God grow exponentially. And we believe that that means the kingdom of God is so much bigger than this church, right? So we have two other churches that are our friends here in this area, go to church and journey point Church journey. Point Church was supposed to have one of their monthly meetings today and they got COVID. So we're going to pray for them. They had to go all online today and then go Church is leasing a building. So they are in their building for the very first time this Sunday. So we're excited about that and we're praying for them.

0 (43s):

And then we're going to pray again for our nation, for our new president elect. Okay. Would you guys join me in prayer for that Lord? God, we do believe the kingdom of God is so much bigger than our church. And we're glad about that. We're glad that you use people and then use churches that do things a little differently in We. We just love that Lord. I pray, especially right now for journey points that you'd keep those who got a COVID 19 this week, the staff that you would heal them quickly, that you want to allow that to spread and that you would just bless them, even though they are online only right now that you do allow their impact to grow. We also pray for a go church, Lord God, I pray that you'd bless Nick and Becky Callaway as they lead that Church, that you'd help them grow is their first time ever leasing a building like this or that you'd bless that time there, that you would use that building in powerful ways that you would keep people safe as they begin to meet as well or God.

0 (1m 30s):

We also pray for our new, our new president and vice president elect. We pray for, for Joe Biden and for Kamala Harris, Lord, that you would bless them in this transition that you would have a good peaceful transition from president Trump to our new president and Lord God, as we pray last week, we, we, we believe that you are sovereign and that you pick up Kings and you put to bring them down. You put president's in power and you take them down. And we also know that it says in Proverbs that the heart of a King is like a stream in your hands, that you can control it, that you can lead it. And we pray that you'd Lead our new government officials, whether its the president, a vice president or senators or Congress, men, and women, that you would lead them well so that they could govern our nation well.

0 (2m 12s):

And that you'd lead us out at this time of pandemic and out of a difficult economic situation. And I pray that you'd lead us into a good new chapter for our nation, that it would lead to human flourishing and the common good. I pray that you be with us this morning that you'd open up our hearts. That would be ready and eager to hear what you have to tell us this morning in Jesus name. I pray. Amen. Well good. I'm so glad that you guys are here or if you're watching online welcome, we do want, if you, your new wish to our church, we

want to connect with you. I'd love to reach out and be able to even just say hi on the phone. I had the chance to do that with the guy that this last week. And it's just so great to get to know some of the newest people to our church. So if you're, new-ish go to [www dot arise, denver.com/new](http://www.denver.com/new).

0 (2m 54s):

Jimmy mentioned this, or you can just hit that button that says I'm new here. You can do that online. You can. If you're here in person, do the same thing. Fill out that quick little form and we'll reach out to you. Plus we donate \$5 to the Denver rescue mission for every new form that's filled out to help a homeless person or a homeless family, get off the streets or get a meal. So I encourage you guys to do that. So we are starting a new series today. If you missed any of our last year is at our core. You can find all of our series at www.horizondenver.com/media. We have audio video and starting this week for the first time, we also have a transcription of every message. I know there's some people that love to read.

0 (3m 35s):

They'd rather read than listen or watch. You can do that too. But whether you're reading, watching, or listening to subscribe, so you don't miss a single one of those messages because we believe that worshiping weekly is important. Even if you're outta town or out of a country, you can still get that sent straight to your phone. So we encourage you to do that, to keep track of that. Because one of our other core values that we went over in our last series is transformational teaching that we teach God's word accurately and relevantly to transform lives. That's very important here because we believe that God's word takes us from where we are to where we should be. It changes us. It convicts us. It challenges us. This series is going to be challenging, but we believe that that leads to transformation. And even today, we're going to hear a couple stories of someone in this service and someone in the next service getting baptized.

0 (4m 17s):

And maybe some of you may be Lead through this service as well. If you're here in person to get baptized, if you're watching online, you can come down to the end of the service. I'll dunk you. If you just show up, we even have towels for you in some shirts, we'll do that because we believe that God transforms us from the inside out. And that's why in this series, UNTANGLED, it's gonna be really good is we try to UNTANGLED in our lives because there are so many worries and fears that kind of get wrapped up together. Now who in here has ever had a rat's nest of Cortes that you had done tingle, anybody ever done that? You know what I'm talking about? I think everybody has had that experience. There just all wrapped up and tangled together. And you're trying to figure out which core goes to what and you have to like unravel each one. And you're trying to like untied to get to know how to do that.

0 (4m 59s):

Get into a knot right there. How is this tied into that? And you're having to move things under you guys know what I'm talking about. It can be a mess and it's like, I didn't even do anything. It just like happened. Do you know what I'm talking about? It's like, I don't even touch this. And all of a sudden over time, there's just this

huge mess and bungle of cords, cables, string, wires, a whatever it is that you're talking to a rubber bands, you just like open up that drawer or in your house. Oh my gosh, how did I get such a tangled mess in there and what I'm talking about? Well, sometimes it just seems like it happens. It, it just happens that it wasn't planning on getting tangled up it, but it just happened that this tangle happened. And I think the same thing happens in our lives. We have these worries and fears that are very present in our lives, in, in our world.

0 (5m 42s):

And, and even without us thinking about it, we get so entangles in all of those worries and the way we think the way we feel, the way we act gets all tangled up with these worries. And sometimes it's hard to untangle those things. And that's what we're going to work on in this series. As we listen to the words of Jesus for four weeks, we're going to learn to untangle some of these worries we have in our life, as you saw the video. And today is the worry that we have of Looking Good, isn't that something that we worry about. I want to look good. I want to impress people. And we're not in a primarily talking about physical looks. Although I think it includes that, but that idea that we want other people to look at us and think, wow, that's a good person

1 (6m 24s):

That they are a good, good guy. They're they're a great

0 (6m 26s):

Lady. You know, we, we want people to respect us. We want to impress other people. And that's the first word we're going to look at in this series that we're going to hopefully try to untangle because it can really mess us up, especially on the inside of our lives. So what we're going to do in this series, we're starting in Luke 11 chapter, a chapter 11, verse 37. So if you have your Bible or if you have your phone, whatever, using the Bible app, go ahead, get to Luke chapter 11, verse 37. We're going to go to the end of chapter 11 today. And if you've been here at all this year, you know that we've been going through the gospel of Luke on and off, we kind of do one Luke series, one different series, one Luke series, because Luke is such a long gospel.

0 (7m 8s):

So we're kind of keeping it fresh with these different series. This is actually our sixth short series in Luke. And we're going to continue that through next year to get through the gospel. According to Luke, and in this we've been investigating Jesus, what he actually said, what he actually did, not just what people think or say about him. What, what the historian Luke went and investigated for himself for us. So we're investigating with him. And today we see what Jesus said to some of the religious people of his day. So in turn he is speaking to us,

1 (7m 36s):

Or I hate speaking to me

0 (7m 39s):

Is speaking to you all. If you're like, well, I'm not religious, we're good. You can kind of sit back this message isn't for you. I think you'll still find some application points for yourself as well. But we're going to see in Luke chapter 11 as Jesus addresses these religious leaders. So in verse 37, I'm going to start reading where it says when Jesus had finished speaking. So he was just speaking to the crowds. He is preaching a great message. A Pharisee invited him to eat with him. So he went in and reclined at the table. So here's Jesus is this great popular preacher who attracts thousands of people. Thousands of people come to see him. So one of the religious leaders, this Pharisee says, Hey, come on over.

0 (8m 20s):

This is like, Hey, I just went to the concert. Now I want to hangout with the lead singer, right? That that's what's going on. And this is a big conference. Ooh, I get to have that That conference speaker at my house for dinner. This is a big deal. Right? So the Confederacy invites him in there was going to have this special party. He probably invited some of his friends as well. Hey, we're all going to get to rub shoulders with this preacher, whether you like him or not. He's a big deal. We're around someone who is pretty popular and in verse 38. But the Pharisee was surprised when he noticed that Jesus did not first wash before the meal.

1 (8m 54s):

How could he, there might be

0 (8m 57s):

The diseases and viruses being spread around. You better wash up, right? You better wash your hands till they're raw and red. That's what we've been doing for the last eight months now. Right? Okay. That's what we think about now, when you read this first wash up, get clean because hygiene is what's on our mind. Okay? Even before COVID times you were thinking hygiene, when you'd read this verse, that's what we do is as Americans in the 21st century, we think hygiene washing your hands. But I don't know if you've ever studied this. It wasn't until just about a a hundred years ago that people even knew that washing hands was important and helpful. Really? Like it had to be like a study thing. Nobody believed it for the longest time. No, that's ridiculous.

0 (9m 38s):

There is some Eastern European who figured this out and it was like, nah, don't listen to that guy. He's he's dumb. He doesn't know what he's talking about. And hundreds and thousands of people were dying in surgeries and in doctor's office because doctors didn't even wash their hands. Right? So this is a very new thing that we've learned that washing your hands,

1 (9m 54s):

The lady, the hygiene, what the fuck

0 (9m 57s):

We noticed here is that Jesus is not washing his hands. Is that he wasn't performing the right ritual. And we know this because in the Mishnah, which was another book that rabbis wrote to explain how to be even more religious than the Bible says, you can read, there's two chapters devoted to how you need to wash your hands. And I read him this week. That's what I do for you guys. I read the mission at this week and it's a very specific about how their supposed to wash their hands. You need to hold your hands up like this 'cause if you have them down like this, you could accidentally get a little extra uncleanness from your wrists in arms. That can, it can ruin your hands. So you pour the water on and you can't just pour it. Anyways. There has to be the bucket of water or whatever, using that sister in. And then you have to use a second utensil like a cup or a spoon to pour the water onto your hands.

0 (10m 38s):

As they're facing up like this, you pour once. And then you pour a second time. And we know for a fact that this had nothing to do with hygiene because of how much water was supposed to be used. They gave very clear instructions that you were supposed to use, which is the equivalent of about a third of a Coke can, okay. Just think a third of a cocaine. That's how much water you're supposed to use for up to four people. If you had five or more people, you're supposed to double it, right? But if you have four people one-third of a Coke can supposed to be poured. Can you wash your hands like that? Okay. This is not like seeing happy birthday three times and use antibacterial soap. Okay? That's not what's going on here. This is all about the looks of being ceremonially pure I've washed off the uncleanness and now I am clean.

0 (11m 24s):

You have shown to everybody else before the meal. Cause this is done in groups. You don't go off by yourself to the bathroom. You're all watching in front of each other to show how religious you are to other people. This is about Looking.

1 (11m 36s):

Okay, good. This is

0 (11m 39s):

What about looking good? And that's the first of these fears. These worries that we're going to be talking about on tingling. Cause don't we care so much about looking good

1 (11m 46s):

In front of other people. And I'm

0 (11m 48s):

Not just talking about physical looks, although I think that's part of it, but we also just want to look like we're upright. That were people we want to impress other people. Some of you are like, well, Matt, I'm not a

religious person. I don't care what the religious people think of me, but we care about somebody. Yeah, we all do. We've seen it this last week and probably the last five years. We want to look politically upright. Don't we, I don't care which side of the aisle you're on. You're tweeting. You're putting things on Facebook so that you can show people. I voted for the right person. I am righteous in the political realm as what we do. There's even a term for it now. Virtue signaling, right? I've never heard that term before. 'cause we want to show to other people that we are virtuous.

0 (12m 31s):

That I'm a good person. That I have morals that I have the high ground. We do this with social media. We want to look socially respectable. The people we take on average, I think it's like 10 minutes people take before they post a picture on Instagram for other people to see it less than like half a second. But we want to look good for others. Don't we? This is going after that first, he is saying, you are so concerned about Looking Good that you have the income entangled in your heart. And we need to UNTANGLED that he is saying worried so much about looking good in front of all the other people. So Jesus goes after them in verse 39, he says, then the Lord said to him, now, then you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish.

0 (13m 15s):

But inside you are full of greed and wickedness. You foolish. People did not. The one who made the outside, make the inside. Also the thing you care so much about looking good on the outside, you care so much about Looking righteous. That's the thing we're UNTANGLED with there's these three different things that Jesus points out that we care about. Looking Good with that we care about Looking righteous. That's what he's saying to these Pharisees. You want to look good on the outside. You want to wash your hands. So you look good so that you impress all the other religious people that you're with. Look at me morally upright. Don't we do this. I do it. I remember vividly when I was 12 years old, there was a football game after Church and here was my dad, the worship leader.

0 (14m 0s):

It was all the other religious leaders in church, the elders, the deacons, right? We were all playing football. Not only did I want to impress them, That I'm good at football as a 12 year old. Right. But I also wanted to show them that I like have sportsmanship that I'm someone that could be respected. Right? And here we were all playing football and I'm going out. I'm the receiver. I'm running as fast as I can. I stretch out my arm, the football's come in this way. I got a defender right in front of me, but I'm stretching out so far, this ball and the ball comes and hits my pinky and brakes. It instantly. And I yell and expletive so loud that everyone hears right. This 12 year old, my dad is they're all the leaders of the Church.

0 (14m 42s):

Everybody just stops in is silent. Nobody says a word. And I was so ashamed. Right? Because you want it to be a respectable, like I'm, I'm the good kid yet something. So filthy just came out of my mouth in front of everybody. It's not like, I hadn't said that word before or thought it right. But here in front of all these other

people, man, what did I,

1 (15m 2s):

Oh, look like in their eyes? Well, certainly wasn't righteous. That was me. Right? Anybody had an experience like that.

0 (15m 11s):

You know, I have people all the time because I'm a pastor come up to me and they'll apologize for cussing. Cause if I've never heard it before,

1 (15m 18s):

What is that word mean?

0 (15m 19s):

Right. They apologize because now they're around the religious people. We've got to impress the religious people. Right? That's what we do. We want to look good. We want to look righteous. That's one of the desires of our heart to look righteous. But there's even more as, as Jesus continues to really read these Pharisees and talk about how they're so focused on how they look, he says in verse 42, woe to you Pharisees, because you give a 10th of your mint, Rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God, you should have practiced the ladder

1 (15m 50s):

Without leaving the former undone. Remember

0 (15m 53s):

He just called them greedy. And they're probably thinking, what do

1 (15m 56s):

You mean greedy? I tie, I tie,

0 (16m 0s):

In fact, these guys were so religious that they would tie on the herbs from the herb garden. Okay. They would, they would pull out the mint and everything and they would divide one 10th and they'd give that to the Church. And they'd only use the other nine 10th house,

1 (16m 14s):

The religious could you get, man, that's impressive. Right? Because they want it to look generous.

0 (16m 20s):

Jesus. Doesn't say, we'll stop doing that. He says, okay, keep doing that. But matter. You should think about the important things like justice, like love like caring for the least in the last, in the last, do you care more about the poor or do you care about making sure you get it exactly right. They probably even got the scales out to me

1 (16m 35s):

The way it, yep. Let me take out an ounce of that cumin. Right? Because they want to make sure they get it exactly right.

0 (16m 43s):

Some of us are so far removed from an herb garden that it's distant. But I remember when I was a Pastor in Nebraska, what people would do during harvest time was that they would come and they would actually bring some of the vegetables from their garden, which actually was a really cool thing. They bring it in and there was a table. Everybody put the, the vegetables on the garden and then anybody can come take it. So people who were in need could come and they would take all the vegetables, they needed their sweet Cornish tomatoes.

1 (17m 7s):

It was great

0 (17m 9s):

Until the end of harvest time, when there'd be like, people have been given so much away. If you didn't lock your doors, people would literally put squash

1 (17m 16s):

In your car and you'd be like, Oh man, squash again.

0 (17m 20s):

It did. But the point is like, it was good. People were doing it at a Good, but if you're doing That so that everybody can see that you're generous, that's it?

1 (17m 26s):

It is wrong. And this is a big deal, you know,

0 (17m 30s):

In, in issue over the last several years, if people have gone more and more to online giving in churches,

1 (17m 37s):

No seriously, because

0 (17m 38s):

You used to pass the plate and here you can. We want you to give online, but you can also give in those boxes in the back. Right. But when people would pass the plate, well, now they're starting to give online. Churches would literally envelopes and in big wording on it online. So people could take that envelope and put it in the offering plate so they can be seen to be giving every week. I had one man come up to me a long time ago and say, Matt why are there so many offerings? There is always an offering we're collecting money. And I just feel like I have to give every time. Cause that's why we should give. Right? Cause you have to be seen to give

1 (18m 15s):

By others. But that shows our hearts. Doesn't it, it shows our heart

0 (18m 21s):

That we only want to appear generous. We want to look generous in the eyes of others. But Jesus says no, no, no. It's actually about having a generous heart. Do you actually care about the

1 (18m 30s):

Poor?

0 (18m 32s):

Do you just want all your friends to see how many operation, Christmas child boxes you filled or do you want to do it to bless family in need?

1 (18m 39s):

Have a need it's about the inside. Not just the outside.

0 (18m 44s):

It's about the inside. Not just the outside and it's not just, Looking righteous. It's not just Looking generous, but it's also, Looking important that Jesus calls us out for, and we see this in verse 43 with the Pharisees, Jesus has woe to you Pharisees because you love the most important seats in the synagogues and respectful greetings in the marketplaces woe to you because you are like unmarked graves, which people walk over without knowing it. That last line says, what would Jesus means by that is you are dead. And people don't even know you are spiritually dead inside. And people think that you are the upright religious people. Why? Because they care more about being seen in the synagogue. They want to be seen going to church.

0 (19m 26s):

Look at me. I'm there every week I am in the front row. I look good. I have the tie on.

1 (19m 31s):

She says, that's not what it's about. Now.

0 (19m 34s):

I need to be honest here for a minute. There is a pretty major nationwide study that was done, right? It is about the second or third month of COVID that wanted to look at Church attendance. Okay. And what it looked at was okay, church's in their pre COVID attendance numbers. What are their attendance numbers? Now that everything is online. Okay. What they found this is generally speaking across the nation. Was that a one-third of the regular church goers. These are the people going, I think at least three times a week, one third of them kept going about the same amount of time every week, right? One third are continuing to every week, another third, switch to another Church. Now we can watch online that church has a better music and a better preacher.

0 (20m 16s):

I want to go join in that church. And then the third, third stopped going all together. Or maybe all sorts of other reasons for this. But I think one of the things that tells us is that now that people aren't seen going to church,

1 (20m 32s):

Why bother? If nobody's going to see me there, why would I even show up?

0 (20m 37s):

Because nobody can see me in my living room logging on. I'm just like a number of, one of the views.

1 (20m 42s):

Does this tell something

0 (20m 43s):

About us? And I say this to the people that are here, like thank you guys for being here. Thank you guys for watching online. But I think we can be convicted by what Jesus says. Right? Do we just want to look important? Do we just want to look like we've got it together?

1 (20m 59s):

Do we actually want to follow Jesus and love God? Jesus says, Hey, you got some of these.

0 (21m 7s):

That was the heart. Now, as you guys are hearing this message, I'm sure some of you are thinking, man, I wish so-and-so were here. They need to hear this message. I'm going to send it to them. When I get home,

we're watching online, sharing it with your friend, right? 'cause we can all think of those Pharisees. And isn't that what we do with the Pharisees. We hear about these Pharisees. And I always think of somebody from a different denomination. That's what I do in my head. Whenever I read about the Pharisees. Oh yeah, those guys and all their religious rituals and how they dress up in their pastures or do all that stuff. They are the ones who were the Pharisees, but it's never me.

1 (21m 39s):

Right? Don't we do this.

0 (21m 42s):

We're thinking of the other people, maybe even other people in this room, they need to hear this message. But this message.

1 (21m 48s):

It is for me, this message is for you.

0 (21m 54s):

Could you just say that out loud, this one's for me type that in a line. This one's for me, this is not about other people. In fact, there's other people, there is not just the Pharisees at this, this religious launch, right? There's not just a few seats. There's also a group of people called the teachers of the law. So these guys were a spiritual people as well. Then in verse 45, it says one of the experts in the law answered Jesus teacher. When you say these things, you insult us also you're offending us too. Even though you're going after these guys for how terrible they are, it's kind of like rubbing off on us. This is kind of insulting to which Jesus replied and you experts in the law woe to you.

1 (22m 34s):

See,

0 (22m 35s):

They were trying to say, Oh yeah, those guys have some problems, but Jesus is saying a no-no you do to see it's so easy to put this off on somebody else. But this message is for me, this one's for me. And I want you to think that as we go in now, Jesus has these three things that we focus on to look good, look righteous, to look generous, to look important. But now Jesus is going to say, there is because of how much you care about how you look on the outside. There are three major blind spots that you're missing on the inside. This one's for you. This one's for you. Verse 46. And you experts in the law woe to you because you load people down with burdens. They can hardly carry and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them.

0 (23m 19s):

Now, honestly, this has been one of the most convicting verses for me as a Pastor because we do this, we speak the truth, these religious leaders, they, these guys knew the law. They knew what God had said. And what they do is they say, this is how then you're supposed to live your supposed to pray regularly, supposed to read the scriptures. You're supposed to meditate. You're supposed to tie it. You're supposed to live a sexually pure live. All of these things that they're putting on. They're a good thing. What the Bible actually says, but then they do nothing to help. See these people have a blind spot in realizing they're not helpful. They're unhelpful on how they're doing things. This is how you're supposed to live. This is what your supposed to do. The more and more we talk about this. And this is why as a pastor of this convicts me, because I tell you how to live. And I tell you what to do, but am I actually helping you to do it?

0 (24m 2s):

It's one thing to tell a person you need to get up every morning and read your Bible. It's another thing to be helpful and say, Hey, let's get up together tomorrow. We're going to read the Bible together in order to teach you how to do it because it's hard and confusing. Sometimes you don't know how to pray. Hey, let's pray together. Let me teach you how to do it. Are we actually being helpful? When we talk to other people? It's not saying don't tell them what's right, but it is saying help them. Jesus, we as followers of Jesus, it's sometimes so easy to just tell other people, all of the things they're doing is wrong, but are we helping them? We're putting a burden on them. But as Paul says in Galatians six, our job is to carry one. Another's burdens. Are we doing that?

0 (24m 43s):

Are we stepping in and say, Hey, let me help you with that. You messed up. I love you. Come on, I'll encourage you. I'll pick you back up and we'll do it together. Are we helpful or unhelpful? This is a major blind spot

1 (24m 54s):

For some of us.

0 (24m 56s):

And Jesus continues. There's another blind spot. He says in verse 47, Whoa to you because you build tombs for the profits and it was your ancestors who killed them. And then jumping down to the end of this paragraph in verse 51, he says, yes, I tell you, this generation will be held responsible for it. All. This is complicated one, but what Jesus is saying is you guys look to the past, you'd look at Jeremiah, Isaiah, these, these great profits, and you venerate them. You Revere them. You love and look how great they are. You even build tombs for them to show how important they were. But Jesus is saying, if you had been there though, you would've killed them. You would of been the ones who hated when that preacher was preaching.

0 (25m 38s):

So for our day we say things like, Oh mother Teresa, what an amazing woman. But when was the last time

that you helped in orphan Billy Graham? What a phenomenal evangelist. What a great man. What was the last time you shared your faith? Dietrich. Bonhoeffer. What a great man to stand up to Hitler, even though it cost him his life. When was the last time you spoke up to power, even though it might cost you something. Jesus is saying, the problem here is that you are

1 (26m 6s):

Hypocrites, right?

0 (26m 11s):

You pretend like one thing, but are you living it out

1 (26m 14s):

And hypocrites

0 (26m 17s):

In the end? The third thing that Jesus points out now with these religious leaders of the law in verse 52, Whoa, to you, experts in a law because you have taken away the key to knowledge, you yourselves have not entered and you have hindered. Those who were entering. The third problem is that there are a hindrance to others there or a hindrance to others because they think they know the way to heaven, but they're not going themselves. They think they know the path to actually follow after God, but they're not doing it themselves. And therefore they are hindering others. By the way, they are living, man, that's convicting. Am I a hindrance to other people? By the way I live, am I leading other people astray?

1 (26m 60s):

This is a heavy message. What Jesus said,

0 (27m 2s):

Just saying here is convicting as he's here with the Pharisees and then the religious leaders and ensuring this message that comes to us, it should convict us because it's hard to hear these things. And I'm up here, the chief hypocrite of the church

1 (27m 20s):

Now really

0 (27m 21s):

This morning, I said something rude to Melissa and it lead us into a conversation. Let's just call it that. Right? And in this conversation I was distracted and I had just gotten out of the shower. So both our twins crawl into the bottom of the shower and are just soaking wet. And that's when I leave to go to church to preach, honey, if you're watching, I'm really sorry. I love you. I messed up because I'm a hypocrite, right? How it gives me

the right to come up here and preach to you about this stuff. I'm a sinner. I love it. What Paul says in first Timothy one where he says that Jesus Christ came to save sinners of whom I am the worst. I could have written that I'm the worst center of the church.

1 (28m 4s):

And I'm saying this, that these words from Jesus are

0 (28m 7s):

You come to me, even though I'm preaching them to you. I'm not like Jesus. See when Jesus preached, he actually did what he said. He was righteous. He was innocent. He was pure. He had a perfect heart that was generous and kind and show justice to the poor. And he preached this message with complete perfection to be able to call out these people. I don't preach it at the same way. Cause I can't. I wish I could, but I can't. I preach it like a fellow sinner, like a fellow Pharisee, just like you. And that's what we are. Right? Larry Osborne in his great book says that we are accidental Pharisees 'cause we have become. So entangles in the sins of our heart and we care so much more about how we look on the outside than what's actually going on in the inside.

0 (28m 51s):

And the inside is filthy. I need a volunteer. Do I have a brave volunteer today for a lesson? Jenna, I love it. Come on up, come on up the stairs. And as you can see here, I have a really beautiful white dish, right? You guys all see this dish? Hear this bowl. We've got some life cereal. We've got some milk. We've got a spoon. And Jen, I want you to come up here, pour some life into this bowl. And I want you to eat

1 (29m 16s):

The bowl of cereal. What's what, what do you mean? What is it?

0 (29m 22s):

Why don't you show everybody else? What's in the bowl show. Let's get the camera to zoom in on that. Can you show everybody it's disgusting, right?

1 (29m 32s):

You don't want to eat out of there before the milk,

0 (29m 37s):

But you won't use that dish, right? It's disgusting. It's gross. Thank you. Can you everybody give Jenna a hand? It's gross, right? I want to just see, you can get a zoom in on that. If we can. Sunday on our cameras. That's disgusting. Isn't it?

1 (29m 53s):

It looks great

0 (29m 54s):

On the outside. Nice, shiny white bone China. Right? But on the inside, it's filthy disgusting. You don't care. How, how good the outside looks. If the inside is filthy, which Jesus is saying is that's us. We're like that dish. So we, we try to clean up the outside. We wash it. We make ourselves look good. We put it on our Good plaid shirts and go to church when that's just me. But we want to look good in front of others. But inside we're filled with sin. We have hearts that are just care so much about what other people think we want to look righteous. Even though we are not, we want to look generous. Even though we don't care about the poor, we want to look like we're important. Even though really we're dead inside.

1 (30m 37s):

Jesus is saying, and we will.

0 (30m 39s):

If he wants to do is to change our focus to help us get UNTANGLED from this. Not that our heart is tied in, wants to get UNTANGLED. So, so don't focus. Don't focus on how good you look on the outside.

1 (30m 54s):

Is there a big idea? But on

0 (30m 56s):

Being transformed by God on the inside. Don't focus on looking good on the outside, but But on being transformed by God on the inside. We need God to transform our hearts, to clean our hearts, to wash us, to take all of this sin and his hypocrisy and this, this junk out of our lives. And just wash it again and again and again, we've got to be transformed and renewed every single day.

1 (31m 17s):

We need that.

0 (31m 19s):

We've got to admit it, that we were just like that bowl. And we need to be washed not just on the outside, but on the inside. And we cannot do that on our own.

1 (31m 28s):

We can't. We can try

0 (31m 29s):

To be more generous, but we're still selfish. We can try to do more justice and show love to others, but we

need God to change this first from the inside. And that is the great news of our faith that this Jesus did not just preach how to live righteously, but he went and he lived the perfect life and then died on the cross. And when he died on the cross, even though he had done nothing wrong, he paid our penalty. He took the punishment for our sin. And when we put our faith in Jesus, our sins can be forgiven and our heart can be washed clean from the inside.

1 (32m 1s):

That's the good

0 (32m 2s):

News, the gospel of Jesus Christ that Jesus said, ah, I won't just teach about it. I will do it. And I will show you

1 (32m 8s):

How to live.

0 (32m 10s):

And when we believe in Jesus, our hearts can start to begin to be transformed. Our sins can be washed away and we can begin to live the righteous Holy life. We are called to, to truly be generous, truly be kind, truly be loving to others

1 (32m 23s):

Into God. We've got to be

0 (32m 25s):

Transformed on the inside and stop worrying about how we look on the outside. So as I have the band come on up, I just want us to think about this because we all have two options with a message like this. We have two options to reject it or to repent, to reject or to repent. And that's what you see at the very end of this, this story. It says in verse 53, when Jesus went outside the Pharisees and the teachers of the law began to oppose him fiercely and to receive to him with questions, waiting to catch him in something he might say, instead of repenting and saying, yes, I am sinful on the inside. They got even angrier and they rejected everything Jesus said, and we have that opportunity this morning.

0 (33m 10s):

Do we reject it? Or do we repent? Do we reject it? Or do we repent? And I hope and pray that you will not be like the Pharisees, but we can say, I am the chief of sinners. I need his forgiveness. I need him to transform me from the inside out. So what we're going to do right now is we're going to have a moment, a time that we can repent. And what repentance is that we're telling God, yes, I'm a sinner. We're admitting what we have done something wrong, but it's not just that definitely half of it. The other half is saying I'm going to change

my life. So it's a one 80 in our life. I'm walking this direction. I'm going to say that it's wrong. And I'm going to walk this direction. That's what repentance is something that goes on in our hearts. So what we're going to do right now is just take a moment to confess our sins to God.

0 (33m 51s):

We can do that quietly. You don't have to yell amount unless you really want to, okay. We're all sinners here, but that this is you and God take that moment to confess your sin to God, ask him to forgive you. It says in first John That, if we confess our sins, God is faithful and Justin will forgive us our sins and purify us of all unrighteousness. And that's a promise. We claimed today that Jesus has to pay the penalty for my sin and I can be washed and forgiven of it. And after we do that, we're going to see someone who is declaring that publicly, right? That is being physically washed publicly to show what has happened inside of our heart to be washed her sin. And if you're here and you said I've never done that, I've never made that public statement of our faith.

2 (34m 31s):

Oh, thank you too. Okay. Seriously. I have, I have shirts for you. I have a towel

0 (34m 35s):

Or you, you can come on up and I will dunk you. And just a second, as we publicly say, what's happening in our hearts. So, so let's take this moment right

2 (34m 41s):

Now to just, just pray and repent. Pat, your heads, close your eyes. Now with everyone's eyes still closed and heads bowed. If you're here today and you've never put your faith in Jesus,

0 (35m 12s):

But you want him to forgive you of your sins once. And for all, I'm going to lead you in a simple prayer and you can say the sign

2 (35m 18s):

Yourself, God hears it. God knows your heart and he will forgive you of all your sins. So, so please just repeat this prayer after me. You can say it quietly, right where you are father. I know that on the inside, I'm a sinner. Would you forgive me? I believe Jesus died for my sins and Rose from the dead. I declared that Jesus is my Lord and savior. Please give me the gift of eternal life.

2 (35m 59s):

I invite your spirit to live inside of me and transform me. Help me to follow you and serve you for the rest of my life in Jesus name. Amen. Now with everybody's eyes still closed and heads bowed. If, if you're here in person and you said that prayer for the first time and you meant it, would you please just slip your hand up

into the air. I want to pray for you and celebrate with you. If you made that decision for the first time in your online, go to www.arrivedinbut.com/follow and fill out that form. Cause I'd love to connect with you and encourage you on your journey. Now let's for all of us. Let's pray, Lord God, we confess.

2 (36m 41s):

We are sinners. We repent. Lord God help us to stop sinning in our marriages. Stop sinning with being ungenerous, with being unjust But that we would have transformed hearts this morning. Lord, let your Holy spirit come inside of us to work on the inside, to wash us and clean us, make us Holy and pure. Like you, I pray that you'd help us go out of this place and live following you. Not trying to look good on the outside, but being transformed on the inside to be more like your son, Jesus, pray this all in your name. Amen.