

When Christians Dissappoint

Message 3/23/25

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

Matthew 23

Titus 1:16

Hebrews 5:13-14

Psalms 103:14

Acts 13:51-52

BIG IDEA: Jesus hated hypocrisy and offered a way toward healing from it.

Why do so-called Christians get it wrong?

1. Some who claim to be Christians aren't actually Christians.

2. Some are Christians, but they aren't mature.

How do we heal from these situations?

1. Be merciful and practice love.

2. Practice justice.

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Talk about a time a restaurant let you down. Would you give it a second chance? Why or why not?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why?
- Which word or phrase from the Key Scriptures speaks to you most?
- Read Psalm 103:14. What might change about your response to people who let you down if you remembered they were only dust?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Have you been disappointed by church or other Christians? If so, share what you learned from that experience. How can you take a step toward healing?
- Share about a time you let someone down. What did you learn from that experience? Did it alert you to any area in which you need growth? Then, spend time as a small group talking about ways you can model Christ's love in your daily lives.
- Are there any areas in your life where you're being hypocritical or judgmental? How could embracing God's mercy help you have a more loving response?

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Choose one area of your life from your sharing above that you want to commit to either grow in or step toward healing.
- Feed on solid food by starting or continuing the Bible reading plan. <https://www.cc-sd.org/devotionals/>

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Dear God, thank you for your unlimited grace. Help us receive your grace and extend it to others, even when we've been hurt or disappointed. Show us if there are any hypocritical or judgmental behaviors we need to change and guide us as we seek to represent your love to others. In Jesus' name, amen.