



## Week 13: Controversy with the Pharisees

### Introduction:

As noted previously, Jesus' roughly 3 year public ministry can be divided into a Year of Obscurity, a Year of Popularity, and a Year of Opposition. All of chapter 7 occurs during the Year of Opposition. The cross is perhaps only six months away at this point in the text. The events of the entire chapter occur in Judea around Jerusalem, the center of the Jewish leader's opposition to Jesus. But the chapter begins with a teaching on prayer.

**Note:** As you discuss questions in your groups or reflect on them by yourself, keep in mind that the goal is not to get all the answers right. Many of us will not know the answers, and that is okay! The goal is to interact with God's Word and give genuine thought to it. If you struggle to even guess a possible answer, that is okay too! The pastors will provide the answers after your discussion so you can know and record them on your study guide.

### Questions:

***Read Luke 11:1-13, Jesus' teaching on prayer***

*This setting is different from the Sermon on the Mount (Mt.5:9-13), where Jesus also taught the Lord's Prayer. The disciple who made the request was likely not one of the twelve.*

1. Obviously this "edition" of the Lord's Prayer is different from the one given in the Sermon on the Mount. What are the implications of that?

Answer:

2. What are promises that Jesus gives regarding prayer in verses 5-13?

Answer:

***Read Luke 11:14-28, Jesus and Beelzebul***

*Baal-Zebul means “exalted or prince Baal.” The name came to be used of Satan (Lk.12:24).*

3. Describe the comfort in Jesus’ illustration of verses 21-22.

Answer:

4. Jesus called out the blasphemy of the Jewish leaders. In your breakout groups, discuss: Are there circumstances in which we need to call out falsehood? If so, when and how should it be done?

Answer:

***Read Luke 11:29-32, The sign of Jonah***

5. What is the problem with relying on signs?

Answer:

***Read Luke 11:33-36, The lamp of the body***

6. How can we apply this section to ourselves?

Answer:

***Read Luke 11:37-54, woe to the pharisees and experts of the law***

7. List the shortcomings that Jesus exposes in the Pharisees.

Answer:

8. How would you describe Jesus' attitude in delivering these "six woes?"

Answer:

## **Closing Thought:**

God desires all people to be saved. So Jesus mentors His disciples and labors to disciple His enemies.