

It's An Inside Job

Cultivating Your Inner Life with God

As the seasons change and the world around us bursts into life, it's a vivid reminder of the unseen work happening beneath the surface. Just as spring brings forth new growth from hidden places, so too does our spiritual life require attention to the inner workings of our hearts. In Luke's Gospel, we see how Jesus cast a light for the pharisees and the experts of the law on the condition of their inner life. The Lord Jesus showed them and He shows us that our outer expressions of faith must be rooted in a genuine inner life with God.

Jesus was compelled to confront the Pharisees and experts in the law, who were more concerned with outward appearances than the condition of their hearts. He pronounced woes upon them, not out of malice, but as a loving warning. Their focus on external rituals and traditions had blinded them to the true essence of faith—an authentic relationship with God.

This message is not just for the Pharisees of old; it's for us today. We live in a world that often values appearances over authenticity, where it's easy to go through the motions of faith without engaging deeply with God. But Jesus calls us to something greater. He invites us to the work God is willing to do in us, a transformation that begins in the heart and overflows into every aspect of our lives. Yes, the problem originates on the inside, and so it's going to take an inside work by God's Spirit.

So, how do we cultivate this inner life with God? It starts with self-reflection and honesty. Ask yourself: How am I growing with God right now? What areas of my life need His transformative touch? It's about moving beyond mere religious rituals and embracing a vibrant, living faith that impacts our attitudes, priorities, and actions. Where do you need God to cast an illuminating light on those inner "private world" places where you need His help to re-order, get real, and "come clean" in order to live authentically with Him.

Engaging with your church community is a vital part of this journey. Worshiping together, studying God's Word, and supporting one another in prayer are essential practices that nurture our inner life. When we gather as a church family, we create an environment where God's Spirit can work powerfully within us, drawing us closer to Him and to each other.

Remember, it's not about perfection or performance; it's about opening our hearts to God's grace and transformation power. Jesus' invitation is to come as you are, and as we follow Him, He comes along side us on a journey of inside out change. So why not allow God to do His inside work in you, so that you may fully experience the abundant life He promises.