

*This Study Guide is based on a sermon by Dr. Joshua Mack. You will find the link to the sermon here.*

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### Luke 11:37-54

#### Shona

37Jesu akati apedza kutaura, mumwe muFarisi akamukoka kuti azodya naye; saka akaenda, akapinda akagara naye pakudya. 38Asi muFarisi akaona kuti Jesu akanga asina kutanga ageza asati adya, zvikamushamisa. 39Ipapo Ishe akati kwaari, “Zvino, imi vaFarisi munosuka kunze kwomukombe nendiro, asi mukati menyu muzere nokukara nokuipa. 40Imi mapenzi avanhu! Ko, akaita kunze haaziye akaitawo nomukati here? 41Asi ipai zviri mukati sezvipo kuvarombo, ipapo zvose zvichava zvakana kwamuri. 42“Mune nhamo imi vaFarisi, nokuti munopa kuna Mwari chegumi chemindi, nerui nezvimwe zvirimwa zvomubindu romuriwo, asi muchirega kururamisira, norudo rwaMwari. Maifanira kuzviita izvi musingasiyi zvokutanga zvisati zvaitwa. 43“Mune nhamo imi vaFarisi, nokuti munoda zvigaro zvapamusoro mumasinagoge nokukwaziswa pamisika.” 44“Mune nhamo imi, nokuti makaita samakuva asina mucherechedzo, vanhu vanofamba napamusoro pawo vasingazvizivi.” 45Mumwe wavadziri vomurayiro akamupindura akati, “Mudzidzisi, kana muchitaura izvi, munotuka nesuwo.” 46Jesu akapindura akati, “Mune nhamo nemiwo vadudziri vomurayiro, nokuti munoremedza vanhu nemitoro yavasingagoni kutakura, asi imi pachenyu hamutongosimudzi munwe wenyu kuti muvabatsire. 47“Mune nhamo imi, nokuti munovaka marinda avaprofita, uye madzitateguru enyu ariwo akavauraya. 48Saka muri kupupura kuti munotenderana nezvakaitwa namadzitateguru enyu; vakauraya vaprofita uye imi mukavaka marinda avo. 49Nokuda kwaizvozvo, Mwari muuchenjeri hwake akati, ‘Ndichatumira vaprofita navapostori, vamwe vavo vachavauraya uye vachatambudza vamwe.’ 50Naizvozvo rudzi urwu ruchava nemhosva yeropa ravaprofita vose, rakadeurwa kubva pakuvamba kwenyika, 51kubva paropa raAbheri kusvikira kuropa raZekaria, uyo akaurayiwa pakati pearitari neimba tsvene. Hongu, ndinoti kwamuri, rudzi urwu ruchava nemhosva yezvinhu izvi zvose. 52“Mune nhamo imi, vadudziri vomurayiro, nokuti makabvisa kiyi yokuziva. Imi pachenyu hamuna kupinda, uye makadzivisa vaya vakanga vachipinda.” 53Jesu akati abva ipapo, vaFarisi navadzidzisi vomurayiro vakatanga kumupikisa zvikuru nokumubvunza mibvunzo yakawanda, 54vachimirira kuti vamubate pane zvaazotaura.

#### Zulu

37Esakhuluma, umFarisi wammema ukuba adle naye; wangena, wahlala ekudleni. 38UmFarisi wamangala ebona ukuthi kaqalanga ngokuhlamba engakadli. 39Yayisithi iNkosi kuye: “Manje-ke nina baFarisi nihlambulula ingaphandle lenkezo nesitsha, kepha ingaphakathi lenu ligcwele ukuphanga nokubi. 40Ziwula, yena owalenza ingaphandle akalenzanga nengaphakathi na? 41Kepha yiphani okungaphakathi kube yisiphiwo sabampofu, bhekani-ke, kobe kuhlambulukile konke kini. 42“Kodwa maye kinina baFarisi, ngokuba nithela okweshumi kwesinkuntshane, nokwentshungu, nokwemifino yonke, ninganaki ukulunga nokumthanda uNkulunkulu! Benimelwe ukwenza lokhu, ningakuyeki nalokho. 43“Maye kinina baFarisi, ngokuba nithanda izihlalo eziphambili emasinagogeni\* nokubingelelwa ezigcawini zokuthengelana! 44“Maye kinina, ngokuba nifana namathuna angasabonakaliyo, nabantu abahamba ngaphezu kwawo bengawazi!” 45Wayesephendula omunye wezazimthetho, wathi kuye: “Mfundisi, ngokusho lokho uyasijivaza nathi.” 46Kepha wathi: “Maye nakinina zazimthetho, ngokuba nithwesa abantu imithwalo ethwaleka kalukhuni! Nina-ke uqobo lwenu aniyithinti leyo mithwalo nangowodwa weminwe yenu. 47“Maye kinina, ngokuba niyawakha amathuna abaprofethi, kanti oyihlo bababulala! 48Ngalokho ningofakazi, nivuma imisebenzi yawoyihlo; ngokuba bona bababulala, nina-ke niyawakha amathuna abo. 49INgenxa yalokho ukuhlakanipha kukaNkulunkulu kwathi: ‘Ngiyakuthumela kubo abaprofethi nabaphostoli; abanye

bayakubabulala, abanye babazingele,' 50Ukuze kubizwe kulesi sizukulwane igazi labaprofethi bonke elachithwa kwasekusekelweni komhlaba, 51kusukela egazini lika-Abela kuze kufike egazini likaZakariya owabulawa phakathi kwe-altare nethempeli. Yebo, ngithi kini: Lizakubizwa kulesi sizukulwane. 52"Maye kinina zazimthetho, ngokuba nisisusile isihluthulelo sokwazi! Nina uqobo lwenu aningenanga, nabangenayo nabavimbela." 53Kuthe ephuma lapho, ababhali nabaFarisi baqala ukumzonda kabi nokumbuzisisa ngokuninginingi, 54bemqamekela ukuba babambe into ephuma emlonyeni wakhe.

### Swahili

37Alipokuwa akinena, Farisayo mmoja alimwita aje kwake ale chakula; akaingia, akaketi chakulani. 38Farisayo huyo alipomwona, alistaajabu kwa sababu hakunawa kabla ya chakula. 39Bwana akamwambia, Ninyi Mafarisayo mwasafisha kikombe na sahani kwa nje, lakini ndani yenu mmejaa unyang'anyi na uovu. 40Enyi wapumbavu; aliyevifanya vya nje, siye yeye aliyevifanya vya ndani pia? 41Lakini, toeni sadaka vile vya ndani, na tazama, vyote huwa safi kwenu. 42Lakini, ole wenu, Mafarisayo, kwa kuwa mwatoa zaka za mnanaa na mchicha na kila mboga, na huku mwaacha mambo ya adili, na upendo wa Mungu; iliwapasa kuyafanya hayo ya kwanza, bila kuyaacha hayo ya pili. 43Ole wenu, Mafarisayo, kwa kuwa mwapenda kuketi mbele katika masinagogi, na kusalimiwa masokoni. 44Ole wenu, kwa kuwa mmefanana na makaburi yasiyoonekana, ambayo watu wapitao juu yake hawana habari nayo. 45Mtu mmoja katika wana-sheria akajibu, akamwambia, Mwalimu, kwa kusema hayo umetushutumu sisi nasi. 46Akasema, Nanyi wana-sheria, ole wenu, kwa sababu mwawatwika watu mizigo isiyochukulika, wala ninyi wenyewe hamwigusi mizigo hiyo hata kwa kimoja cha vidole vyenu. 47Ole wenu, kwa kuwa mwajenga maziara ya manabii, na baba zenu ndio waliowaua. 48Basi, mwashuhudia na kuziridhia kazi za baba zenu; kwa kuwa wao waliwaua nanyi mwawajengea maziara. 49Na kwa sababu hiyo hekima ya Mungu ilisema, Tazama, nitatuma kwao manabii na mitume, nao watawaua baadhi yao na kuwafukuza, 50ili kwa kizazi hiki itakwe damu ya manabii wote, iliyomwagika tangu kupigwa msingi wa ulimwengu; 51tangu damu ya Habili hata damu ya Zakaria, aliyeuawa kati ya madhabahu na hekalu. Naam, nawaambieni ya kwamba itatakwa kwa kizazi hiki. 52Ole wenu, enyi wana-sheria, kwa kuwa mmeuondoa ufunguo wa maarifa; wenyewe hamkuingia, na wale waliokuwa wakiingia mmewazuia. 53Alipotoka humo, waandishi na Mafarisayo walianza kumsonga vibaya, na kumchokoza kwa maswali mengi, 54wakimvizia, ili wapate neno litokalo kinywani mwake.

### Afrikaans

37Net toe Jesus klaar gepraat het, het 'n Fariseër Hom uitgenooi om by hom te kom eet. Hy het toe in sy huis ingegaan en aan tafel plek ingeneem. 38Die Fariseër was verwonderd toe hy sien dat Jesus nie die gebruik nagekom het om voor die ete eers hande te was nie. 39Maar die Here sê vir hom: "Ja, julle Fariseërs! Julle maak die buitekant van bekere en borde skoon, maar binnekant is julle self vol inhaligheid en gemeenheid. 40Julle dwase! Het Hy wat die buitekant gemaak het, nie ook die binnekant gemaak nie? 41Gee liever wat in die bekere en borde is, vir die armes, dan sal alle dinge vir julle rein wees. 42Maar ellende wag vir julle, Fariseërs, want julle gee tiendes van kruisement en wynruit en elke soort kruie, maar verontagsaam die geregtigheid en die liefde vir God. Juis hierdie dinge moet 'n mens doen en die ander nie nalaat nie. 43"Ellende wag vir julle, Fariseërs, want julle hou van die ereplek in die sinagoges en om op straat eerbiedig begroet te word. 44Ellende wag vir julle, want julle is soos onherkenbare grafte waaroor die mense loop sonder om dit te weet." 45Toe sê een van die wetgeleerdes vir Jesus: "Meneer, as u so praat, beledig u ons ook." 46Daarop antwoord Hy: "Julle wetgeleerdes! Ellende wag vir julle ook, want julle laai ondraaglike laste op die mense, en self verroer julle geen vinger om die laste te dra nie. 47"Ellende wag vir julle, want julle bou grafmonumente vir die profete, maar julle voorvaders het hulle vermoor. 48So bewys julle dat julle die dade van julle voorvaders goedkeur, want

hulle het die profete vermoor en julle bou die grafte. 49Daarom het Die Wysheid van God gesê: 'Ek sal profete en apostels na hulle toe stuur, maar hulle sal sommige van hulle doodmaak en ander vervolg.' 50So is die huidige geslag dan skuldig aan die bloed van al die profete wat vergiet is van die skepping van die wêreld af: 51van die bloed van Abel af tot by die bloed van Sagaria, wat tussen die altaar en die tempel doodgemaak is. Ja, Ek sê vir julle, hulle bloed sal van die huidige geslag geëis word! 52"Ellende wag vir julle, wetgeleerdes, want julle het die sleutel van die kennis weggeneem. Self het julle nie ingegaan nie, en dié wat wel wou ingaan, vir hulle het julle verhinder." 53Toe Hy uit die huis weggaan, het die skrifgeleerdes en die Fariseërs Hom heftig begin aanval. Oor allerlei dinge het hulle aan Hom strikvræ gestel 54en fyn opgelet of Hy iets sou sê waarop hulle Hom kon vastrek.

### **Sermon Summary:**

While it can be the greatest blessing you can experience in this life right now to hear God's Word, not everyone who hears God's Word receives that blessing. What's worse, is that some don't even realize, they aren't actually benefit from God's Word because they have bought into a religious system that keeps them from actually profiting from what they are studying. In Luke 11:37-54, Jesus identifies some of the various characteristics of a spiritually blinding religion.

### **Basic Discussion Questions:**

1. Is any willing to share a time in their life when they first began to get very excited about God's Word?
2. What are the different ways Luke has highlighted the priority and value of God's Word in Luke 10 and 11 so far? (Hint: Look at Luke 10:38-42 and 11:27-28)
3. Even though hearing God's Word can be such a blessing, it's clear many of the people hearing Jesus weren't actually enjoying that privilege. What does Jesus say about the people to whom he was speaking in verses 29-32? According to verses 31 and 32 what were they not doing?
4. These people weren't benefiting from Jesus' preaching, and yet, they didn't realize it. Who would they have blamed? What does Jesus say the real problem is?
5. What warning does he give them in verse 35. What is strange about that statement? What do you think that warning means?
6. While ultimately the people themselves were responsible for not listening to Jesus, part of the blame, also lay on the shoulders of the religious leaders of the day. In verses 37-54, Jesus addresses the Pharisees and lawyers. These were very important religious leaders. What does Jesus say about the Pharisees in verse 44? What does he say about the lawyers in verse 52? What do you think is his point? (If you had to summarize it in your own words?)

7. Throughout these verses then we find several characteristics of the kind of religious activity that leads people away from God and makes it very difficult for them to understand the message of the Bible. Let's read the passage together and make some observations.
8. (Before we get dive too deep, can anyone remember some of the characteristics we mentioned on Sunday?)
9. What does the Pharisee do that is surprising in verse 37? How is his attitude towards Jesus shown to be deficient in verse 38? What did Jesus not do that shocked him? Why did it shock him? What does his response reveal about his attitude toward Jesus? How should he have responded instead?
10. What does Jesus say is the problem with the Pharisees kind of religious activity in verses 39-41? What did they do? What did they not do? Why did that not make sense to Jesus? What should they have done instead?
11. Looking back on these verses, what are some of the ways people still are acting like the Pharisees in our day?
12. In verse 42, Jesus starts proclaiming a series of woes. What is the first woe? What were the Pharisees neglecting? How do people still make this same kind of mistake today?
13. What was motivating the Pharisees according to verse 43? In what ways is this temptation still dangerous?
14. How did the lawyers respond to Jesus' rebukes? How should they have responded? Why do you think they responded the way they did?
15. What does Jesus say the lawyers were doing? What was going to be the result, according to Jesus?
16. If these are some of the things that false religion does, let's turn it around now, and see what true religion produces. It should make Jesus bigger in our eyes, it should deal with what's going on in our hearts, it should focus on a relationship with God, it should major on the most important issues, it should lead people to God, it should produce humility, it should be characterized by compassion and helpfulness for those who are struggling, and it should respond in obedience and submission to God's Word. Let's pray that God uses His Word to do all of that in our church.
17. What have you learned from our study of these verses? What would you like to add? What questions do you have? How do you think we should respond to what we've studied together?

