

Genius of Jesus Part 3: Authentic

*“Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: “The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they **do not practice what they preach**. They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people’s shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them. Everything they do is done for people to see.” Matthew 23:1-5 NIV*

Hypocrisy – dishonest, insincere, masked.

1. Hinders salvation.

*“You **shut the door** of the kingdom of heaven in people’s faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to.” Matthew 23:14 NIV*

2. Corrupts Christianity.

*“You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when you have succeeded, you make them twice as much a **child of hell** as you are.” Matthew 23:15 NIV*

3. Majors in the minors.

*“**Which is greater**: the gift, or the altar that makes the gift sacred?” Matthew 23:16-22 NIV*

4. Neglects what really matters.

*“You have **neglected** the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness.” Matthew 23:23-24 NIV*

5. Creates a self-indulging culture.

*“You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and **self-indulgence**.” Matthew 23:25-26 NIV*

6. Focuses on outward appearances.

*"You are like whitewashed tombs, which look **beautiful on the outside** but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean." Matthew 23:27-28 NIV*

7. Destroys the past and present works of God.

*"Go ahead, then, and **complete** what your ancestors started!" Matthew 23:28-32 NIV*

*"But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and **without hypocrisy**." James 3:17 NKJV*

Without Hypocrisy – authentic, honest, unmasked.

✓ **Be vulnerable.**

*"They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. "**My soul is overwhelmed** with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch."" Mark 14:32-34 NIV*

✓ **Be honest.**

*"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, **full of grace and truth**." John 1:14 NIV*

✓ **Be accessible.**

*"**Come to me**, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30 NIV*