

Your service to Jesus Christ will eventually reveal some people close to you who...

Pretend worldly sorrow and good deeds are a substitute for repentance and submission to the Lordship of Christ. (1-5)

Practice their religion outwardly, but refuse to walk with Jesus. (6-10)

Prefer consensus with a crowd rather than standing alone for Jesus. (11-23)

Passively deny that Christ's shed blood has anything to do with them. (24-26)

Questions for Discussion:

Do you know or have you known someone like Judas who demonstrates worldly sorrow over their sin without turning to Christ for salvation?
How would you counsel such a person?

Do you know or have you known someone like the religious leaders of Jesus' day who is outwardly religious, but refuses to walk with Jesus?
How would you counsel this person?

What might be some contexts of relationships with people you know like the crowds of Jesus' day where you could end up walking alone with Christ?
What would the cost be for you to do so?
Have you had to pay that cost in the past? If so, how?
Have you ever chosen to go with the crowd instead? If so, how?
Is there a way Jesus Christ is asking you to follow Him alone right now?

Do you know or have you known someone like Pilate who tried to "wash his hands" of his responsibility for Christ's crucifixion who pretends that Christ's death has nothing to do with them?
What do such people typically believe?
How would you counsel this person?