

Living Authentically Week 2

We are in week two of life with social distancing. Everything looks a little different including our relationships! How do we have authentic relationships during this time? What should a relationship with God look like now? This week Andrew dives into Matthew 6 where Jesus talked against the hypocrites for having an inauthentic relationship with God. Andrew discusses how our relationships have been influenced by social media. Social media is one of our main ways to connect with others during this time. However, it can lead to a filtered relationship with other and with God.

Scripture – Matthew 6:5-6 & 16-18

5 “And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. **6** But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

16 “When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. **17** But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, **18** so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Questions

Andrew mentioned that social media has influenced our relationships.

How have you ever used social media to make yourself feel better? What does that look like?

Do you ever show more than just your "highlight reel" on social media?

Have you interacted with people who seem different in real life then they do on social media?

Consider the hypocrites in these verses. Andrew mentioned that this word also means actor.

How have you "acted" differently with certain people before?

How have you felt the pressure to act a certain way with your faith life?

What does your prayer life look like? Do you pray? What do you pray about?

Why can praying out loud be intimidating?

Authentic relationships.

What does authenticity mean to you? How do you know when someone is being authentic?

How can we be more of our “real” or authentic selves with others?

How can you be more authentic with God?

What would that look like in your life?