

Study Guide on Matthew 23:1-4, 23-26 **New International Version**

Assign each person in the class one or more verses to study.
Each person should answer these two questions on their assigned verse.

1. What does this verse say?
2. What does this verse mean to me?
3. Discuss your answers with the class.

(Matthew 23:1) Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples:

(Matthew 23:2) “The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat.

(Matthew 23:3) 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.

(Matthew 23:4) 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.

(Matthew 23:23) “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.

(Matthew 23:24) You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.

(Matthew 23:25) “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.

(Matthew 23:26) Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.”

Write the verse or verses you have been assigned below.

Answer These Questions for Class Discussion or Study

1. What does the verse say?
2. What does the verse mean to me?