Can I Preach What You Practice?

Greg Kline · Matthew 23:1–3

INTRODUCTION

- Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.
- So do and observe what they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice.
- My question is if I examined your lives, and if I was examining my own life, could I preach what I'm practicing?

1 Can I Preach What You Practice in Daily Bible Study?

Psalm 1:1–2; Deuteronomy 6:4–9

- His delight is in the law of the Lord. And on his law he meditates day and night.
- Am I practicing what David did? Am I meditating on the law of the Lord day and night?
- There's a difference in making it a chore and making it something that you look forward to and something that as a Christian you really should crave.
- Either we're hypocritical, and it's a black eye for Christianity, … Or you have to refrain from preaching. In which case the borders of the kingdom are not being expanded.
- If you don't do daily Bible study and learn more about God and you allow God to be further and further pushed away from your mind, you're going to pray less.

2 Can I Preach What You Practice in Being a Light?

Matthew 5:13–16; Philippians 2:12–16; John 14:15

- Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
- That you may be blameless and innocent, children of God, without blemish, in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.
- Lights stand out in darkness. But conversely, darkness is hidden with other darkness, and the world will recognize if you're just like them.
- Jesus says, if you love me, you will keep my commandments.
- It doesn't matter what you preach, it matters what you practice, because that's what God looks at, and that's what the world sees.

3 Can I Preach What You Practice in Your Family Life?

Ephesians 5:22–28; Ephesians 6:1–4

- Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church, and gave himself up for her.
- We gotta be careful that we don't just know the law and put it to the side. We gotta practice what we know is preached.

- Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother.
- Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.
- If we're doing right, we could be preached from the pulpit because we would be doing what God has told us to do.

4 Can I Preach What You Practice in Your Speech?

Colossians 3:5–9

- If you've ever had that experience, that's good because that means your conscience is working.
- You must put them all away anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another.
- Could I preach the integrity and honesty of your speech?
- If you talk to me, can I trust that being around you, I will hear only good things, positive things, perhaps even meditations from the law that you've been studying?

5 Preach What You Practice About the Places You Go

1 Peter 4:3–5

- Can I preach what you practice about the places you go physically and on your computer screen and in your television and the movie screens.
- They are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery.
- It's not just them who will give an account, it is us. The question is, will you stand out?

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Is this something that helps the cause of Christ and helps me grow closer with God? Or does it push me farther and mark me with either hypocrisy or silence when I could otherwise be teaching the word of God?**

MY NOTES