

Rediscover Jesus, Part 44: "Take Care How You Handle God's Word"**Luke 11:45-52**

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*Take care how you handle God's Word,
so as not to hinder others from entering God's kingdom.*

I. Guilty of adding burdens to God's Word (vv. 45-46)**Luke 11:45-46 (ESV)**

⁴⁵ One of the lawyers answered him, "Teacher, in saying these things you insult us also."⁴⁶ And he said, "Woe to you lawyers also! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers.

Luke 11:45-46 (NIV) = Jesus replied, "And you experts in the law, woe to you, because you load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, **and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them.**

Galatians 6:2 (ESV) = "Bear *one another's* burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).

II. Guilty of killing prophets of God's Word (vv. 47-51)**Luke 11:47-48**

⁴⁷ "Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets whom your fathers killed. ⁴⁸ So you are witnesses and you consent to the deeds of your fathers, for they killed them, and you build their tombs.

Matthew 23:29-30 (ESV) = "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the monuments of the righteous, saying, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'

³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment.

³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Luke 11:49-51 (ESV)

⁴⁹ Therefore also the Wisdom of God said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute,' ⁵⁰ so that the blood of all the prophets, shed from the foundation of the world, may be charged against this generation, ⁵¹ from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, it will be required of this generation.

III. Guilty of depriving people of God's Word (v. 52)**Luke 11:52 (ESV)**

⁵² Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge. You did not enter yourselves, and you hindered those who were entering."

Matthew 23:13 (ESV) = "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut **the kingdom of heaven** in people's faces. For you neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in.

Luke 24:27, 44-47 (ESV) = And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.... Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

Life Application

1. How have I been adding burden to God's Word?
2. How have I underestimated the amount of sin that exists in my heart?
3. How have I been depriving myself, my family, or others of God's Word?