



**Cutting A New Path  
Building a Better You Part IV  
(Don't Be Fake, Be Genuine)**

**Date: January 19-20, 2019**

**Fake Defined:** Counterfeit, not genuine, claiming to be something you are not

**Big Question for this season: How do you build a better you?**

**Review: If you want to build a better you**

- Don't be **faithless** (What are you believing for?)
- Don't be **fragile** (Why are you so easily broken?)
- Don't be **fearful** (What are you afraid of and why?)
- Don't be **fake** be **genuine** (Why are Christians tempted to be fake?)
- Don't adopt **bad habits** that keep you on the same path (Next Week)

**Big Question Today: What can cause a Christian to be fake and not genuine?**

- Their thinking is improperly aligned
- Their religious expectations of others
- Their need to be the center of attention
- Their approach to leadership is not servant-minded

**I. Four Things Genuine People Try to Do**

**Matthew 23:1-13 (NKJV)**

**1. They align what they say with their actions**

- 1 Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to His disciples, 2 saying: "The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. 3 Therefore **whatever they tell you to observe**, that observe and do, **but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do.**

**2. They strive to have fair expectations**

- 4 For **they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders;** but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.

**3. They don't strive to be the center of attention**

- 5 But **all their works they do to be seen by men.** They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments. 6 They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, 7 greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, 'Rabbi, Rabbi.'

**Note: Hyperbolic Emphasis:**

- 8 But you, do not be called 'Rabbi'; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and **you are all brethren.** 9 Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. 10 And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ.

#### 4. They strive to be servant-minded

11 But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. 12 And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

Closing:

## II. Four Facts About the Fake or Not so Genuine

### 1. They are often very influential (They were recruiting and infecting people)

- Matthew 23:13–36 (NKJV): 13 **“But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!** For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you **neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.** 14 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you **devour widows’ houses,** and for a pretense **make long prayers.** Therefore, you will receive greater condemnation. 15 **“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.**

### 2. They make big promises

- 16 “Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘**Whoever swears by the temple, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obliged to perform it.**’ 17 Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctifies the gold? 18 And, ‘**Whoever swears by the altar, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gift that is on it, he is obliged to perform it.**’ 19 Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that sanctifies the gift? 20 Therefore he who swears by the altar, swears by it and by all things on it. 21 He who swears by the temple, swears by it and by Him who dwells in it. 22 And he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by Him who sits on it.

### 3. They can be financially committed

- 23 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For **you pay tithe** of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. **These you ought to have done,** without leaving the others undone. 24 Blind guides, who **strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!**

### 4. They can look good

- 25 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For **you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence.** 26 **Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.**
- 27 “Woe to you, **scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!** For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness. 28 Even so you also **outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.**

**Next Time: How to Manage Your Good and Bad Habits**

**Read Ahead: 1 Corinthians 13 and Galatians 5:16-2:1**

**Big Question: How has your bad habits stopped you from having a better life?**