

4. In what ways might we also be in danger of what Jesus is condemning here?

5. How does Jesus go on to use this occasion as an opportunity to teach the crowd?

Read Matthew 16:1-12.

6. What approach to Jesus does this group of religious leaders take?

7. What is Jesus' warning to ...

i) The Pharisees and Sadducees?

ii) His disciples?

8. Why might we also need to heed Jesus' warnings?

9. In between these two encounters with the religious leaders, Jesus provides for a surprising group of people. For each, reflect on what we discover about: (a) Jesus; and (b) trusting and following Jesus?

i) The Canaanite woman (15:21-28)

ii) The non-Jewish crowd healed (15:29-31)

iii) The non-Jewish crowd fed (15:32-39;
cf Mark 7:31)

10. What particularly stands out to you about Jesus from today's section of Matthew's Gospel?

11. In what ways has today's section of Matthew's Gospel confirmed, clarified, or challenged your understanding of what it means to trust and follow Jesus?