

A piece of white paper with torn edges, featuring the handwritten text "I Can't Believe In a God Who ..." in black ink. The paper is set against a light gray background.

Part 5 :: I Can't Believe in a God... Whose Followers and Leaders Are Mostly Hypocrites

So maybe you can accept that God is real and Jesus is who he said he is, but you're reluctant to get involved in Christian community or a church. After all, Christians and Christian leaders are pretty much all hypocrites. True? Absolutely. And here's why you should get involved anyway.

Scripture :: John 8:1-11 NLT, James 3:1-2 NIV and Colossians 3:12-14 NIV

Bottom Line: The only people who call hypocrites 'hypocrites' are hypocrites.

Discussion Questions

1. Were the Christians you knew when you were growing up good role models or poor role models? How did that impact your faith?
2. What, in your view, is the goal of Christianity? Is it to make good people better or to make dead people live?
3. The only people who call hypocrites 'hypocrites' are hypocrites. Discuss that idea within the context of John 8:1-11.
4. According to James 3:1-2, how will the ethics of Christian leaders be dealt with? Does that answer satisfy you?
5. Carey said God is more critical of hypocrites than you are. In what ways is it helpful to know that?
6. Read through Colossians 3:12-14. Do you still feel justified in throwing stones? Why or why not? How might your willingness to cast (or not cast) stones impact your relationship with other people and with other Christians?

Moving Forward

If you are going to cast stones, be clear in your mind and before God why you have that right. Then act accordingly.

Changing Your Mind

"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." Colossians 3:12-14 NIV