



Discussion Guide for “Words vs Works”

Good News (For a Change) Week 6

In sharing good news, we debate whether to lead with good works or with powerful words. But Jesus' example shows that to be a false dichotomy. We share good news when we ARE good news, when our words match our actions.

Scriptures for Further Reading

[Matthew 23:1-7, 25-28](#)

[Jeremiah 17:5-10](#)

[Psalm 1](#)

[1 Corinthians 15:12-20](#)

[Luke 6:17-26](#)

Passage for Sacred Reading:

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. You can find a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week's sacred reading is [Matthew 23:1-39](#).

Questions for Discussion

1. Do you tend to be a 'works' person or a 'words' person when it comes to sharing the Good News? Why is that?
2. Why do you think we create a false division between works and words?
3. Reread Jesus' words to the Pharisees in Matthew 23. Why do you think Jesus isn't impressed by right teaching without right actions?
4. Describe what a person whose words and works are integrated looks like.
5. How are you going to share the good news this week in a way that stretches you?