False religious leadership must be rebuked because it...

- 1. <u>Damns</u> the souls of people and increases their <u>wickedness</u> (13-15).
- 2. Creates and establishes man made <u>routines</u>, <u>rituals</u>, and <u>rhetoric</u> that account for nothing (16-22).
- 3. Publically celebrates individuals for giving the bare minimum, while neglecting what Christ deems most important (23-24).
- 4. Draws attention to external behaviors while persisting in sin (25-28).
- 5. <u>Blindly excuses</u> personal sin patterns (29-36).

Questions for Discussion:

- How would you describe some modern day false religious leaders?
 What are their characteristics?
 How are they different than the false religious leaders of Jesus' day?
 How are they the same?
- 2. What are some of the specific errors of these false leaders of our day? What Scripture passages would you use to rebuke them?
- 3. Why do you think people would follow such false leaders today? What do you think could make them appealing?
- 4. Do you know people following such leaders? How might you be able to rescue those people from these leaders? Take time to pray for these people. If possible, invite them to a Harvest worship service.