BIG IDEA
Whether we like to admit it or not, there is a hypocrite in all of us. The truth is hypocrites see hypocrites. The most hypocritical people in Jesus’ day were the religious leaders, but not all religious leaders are susceptible to hypocrisy. Ordinary people are also susceptible to hypocrisy’s deception and trickery. The biggest problem with being a hypocrite is a judgmental and critical heart. Jesus doesn’t call us to be hypo-critical, but hypo-compassionate. When we allow Jesus’ love to indwell us, we will become people who look out into the crowd, and instead of seeing a group of “sinners” or “failures,” we will have the eyes and heart of Jesus who see sheep without a shepherd.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
1. Is there someone in your life you would describe as hypo-compassionate? How are they different from most?
2. Most people would agree, it is easy to be critical. Why do you think that is true?
3. We are all guilty of doing good for selfish reasons. Do you believe our time together has helped you become more aware of this? How?
4. Read Matthew 6:1-2. How would you summarize the big idea of this scripture? How should we live in light of this scripture?
5. As a result of the message and small group time, what is the one thing you believe God is saying to you?

MOVING FORWARD
The love of Jesus is a love that loves people for their own sake and not for one’s own sake. When we love people for our own benefit, we will make value judgments on them for what they can or can’t do for us. Jesus’ cross has determined everyone as worthy of God’s love. Because of this we have been called to love like Jesus and not be hypo-critical but hypo-compassionate. The good news is that through the Holy Spirit we have everything we need to love well.

PRAYER
Lord Jesus, forgive me when I have allowed myself to be hypo-critical instead of hypo-compassionate. Remind me that your perfect love has been poured into my heart so that I can share it with others. May I walk in this world with the eyes of Jesus and see people the way you do. With love and compassion. Amen!