

Religious leadership breeds a mentality of...

1. **Assumed Authority** rather than Christ's authority (1-2)
2. **Artificial Integrity** rather than a sanctified lifestyle (3)
3. **Heartless Instruction** rather than genuine compassion (4)
4. **Pretentious Spirituality** rather than a dynamic personal relationship with Jesus Christ (5-7)
5. **Personal Exaltation** rather than brokenness and humility (8-12)

Questions for Discussion:

Accountability question:

On a scale of 1 – 10 how would you mark yourself in terms of embracing the Bible as your authority?

What other “authorities” compete for your submission?

What would it look like for you to move the Bible as your authority up the scale?

Pastor Jeff listed five traps we each can be tempted to fall into in terms of exalting self vs. Jesus:

1. Value the thoughts of others
2. Value a title
3. Value a rank
4. Value a position
5. Desire to be elevated

Which of these do you think is the most common trap in our culture today?

What would it look like for us to step out of such traps to desire solely to see Jesus elevated?

What are some ways Christians fake integrity?

Pastor Jeff noted that the longer you have been a Christian the greater the temptation. Why is this?

What would like look like to “get real?”

What are some ways Christians can be guilty of judging one another?

What does such an attitude reveal about one's heart?

What would a “change of heart” toward one another look like?