Discussion Questions

**HYPOCRISY:**

* How do I see a hypocritical attitude creep into my own heart at times?
* Do I have a reputation for being gracious or overbearing?
* How can we develop a community of believers who are graciously watching over each other without becoming hypocritical and unloving?

**INEFFICIENCY:**

* Do I trust that Jesus is giving me a gracious and loving command in verse 6?
* How can I balance a desire to graciously engage the lost with a recognition that sometimes it is necessary to end fruitless engagement with some to reach others?
* Does my obligation to the “dog and pig” cease if I am no longer throwing them pearls? If not, how do I continue to minister to them?

**APATHY:**

* Do I trust that God is a generous and willing Father?
* How can I learn how to pray in a way that asks, seeks, and knocks in accordance with the Father’s generous promises?
* What would it look like to incorporate this attitude in my prayers personally, as a family, and in the church?

**GOLDEN RULE:**

* How can I learn to view others as opportunities for gracious love?
* Do I tend to be reactive in my love for others (i.e., “I will respond to kindness with kindness”) or proactive in my love for others (i.e., “I will initiate acts of kindness to others”)?

**FALSE PATHS:**

* Have I counted the cost of following Jesus?
* What dangers exist that threaten to pull me off the path?

**FALSE PROPHETS:**

* Who am I listening to? What kind of fruit are they bearing?
* How can I practice discernment in following prominent Christian voices?

**FALSE FAITH:**

* Is my profession of faith married to a life of obedience to God’s will, or not?