

EVALUATING MY CONVERSATIONS

Matthew 23:1-12

A close-up photograph of a person's open palm, facing the camera. The word "SKEPTIC" is written across the palm in blue ink. The person's fingers are slightly spread, and a silver ring is visible on the ring finger. In the background, the face of a man with a beard and mustache is visible but out of focus. He is wearing a blue shirt. The background is dark and indistinct.

SKEPTIC





1. Do I Expect More From Others Than I Do Myself? (23:1-4)

- Seat of Moses - place where experts sat to teach the Law of Moses
- Jesus recognizes their official capacity but condemns hypocrite behaviour and attitudes



#1 - Live By Example God's Message of Grace



2. Am I Measuring My Life in Superficial Ways? (23:5-7)

- Phylacteries
- Tassels
- Banquets and Synagogues






**#2 - Earn Respect and
Honour, Don't Demand
Them**

3. Am I Becoming Judgmental, Exclusive, or Proud? (23:8-10)

- Rabbi - Teacher
- Father - Title for individual holding place of honor and leadership in synagogue
- Teacher - One who tutors or has authority over a student
- God is our Father, Jesus is our Master, and other believers are brothers and sisters





**#3 - Do Not Be
Preoccupied With Personal
Visibility and Recognition**

4. Am I Becoming More Approachable or Less? (23:11-12)




*"The first responsibility
of a leader is to define reality."*

The last is to say thank you.

In between, the leader is a servant."

-Max DePree



**#4 - Serve God's People
to Help Advance the
Kingdom of God**

His **GRACE** is bigger
than your **SIN**

