

## Luke 6:37-42

### Judge Yourself --- Lest You be Judged

Okay, last week we talked about loving our enemies. We hopefully carried that into the week. It's funny how when asked if we have enemies, everyone said "no" --- well almost everyone, but when the question was qualified with "peace", suddenly we all had enemies. Most of the enemies of our peace were people close to us. From a psychological viewpoint that would be normal. *However, we are the guardians of "our" peace.*

Having a judgmental spirit about you can also steal your joy. Frequently when we judge it is accompanied with thoughts and often the thoughts are expressed in words. So, the mental attitude of judgmentalness leads to sins of the tongue and actual physical sins as well.

1. Are you judgmental? Explain.

Most of us are plagued with a judgmental attitude at times.

Today is our first parable. Yay!

#### **Luke 6:37-42**

***<sup>37</sup>"Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. <sup>38</sup>Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." <sup>39</sup>And He spoke a parable to them: "Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into the ditch? <sup>40</sup>A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher. <sup>41</sup>And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the plank in your own eye? <sup>42</sup>Or how can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the plank that is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck that is in your brother's eye.'***

2. What does this mean to you?

You know for this one it is not really an issue of understanding, but rather application. How do you apply the Word of God in your life? What always interests me is people say --- "Oh, I have a problem with this or that." But what are they doing about the solution? When we judge others, we are basically saying --- "Well I never..." But the Word of God says otherwise.

#### **Romans 2:1-4**

***<sup>1</sup>Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. <sup>2</sup>But we know that***

***the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. <sup>3</sup>And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God? <sup>4</sup>Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?'***

By looking at others' problems, we avoid looking at our own.

***"The blind leading the blind."***

3. Why is that statement in Luke?

You know the answer to this is found in our communion scriptures.

First, let's discuss the parable.

***Luke 6:41-42***

4. Why does our sin make us so defensive?

Let's pretend we are doing communion.

***1 Corinthians 11:27-32***

***<sup>27</sup>'Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup>But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. <sup>29</sup>For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. <sup>30</sup>For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. <sup>31</sup>For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. <sup>32</sup>But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.'***

Judge yourself.

5. What is your next step in becoming less judgmental?

Let's pray God would grant us a non-judgmental spirit. Remember, if you know you have this problem --- you need to address it. A good place to start is by changing your mental attitude to one of positive regard.

Let's pray.