

Matt. 7:1-6 - Pigs, Dogs and Logs...Oh my - (part 2)

INTRO – How do you react to an accusation? How do you give criticism? Last week we began looking at the proper way to judge each other; or asking, “Is it even proper to judge each other?” The reason for this series is that there are a myriad of accusations floating around - (personal, cultural, national). Nobody likes to receive an accusation; but it is unwise to automatically reject an accusation. So, we are opening up our Bibles and noting how to properly give & receive an accusation, a criticism or a judgment.

Review - examining popular/potent 3 words “Do not judge...” (that ½ verse and the verses that follow)

- Caution – There is a *Do Not Enter* sign in some arenas....but there is always a *Caution* sign... Extreme caution should be taken before we enter into judgment. Hesitate before you evaluate
- Reciprocation – reciprocation always accompanies accusation – Saw of criticism cuts both ways. When we judge others we open ourselves up to be judged by others (comes back) Luke 6:37-38
- Self-Examination - Self-examination should always precede an accusation. We are to look in the mirror before we pick up the micro-scope on someone else. (logs before a little dust). We are to guard against hypocrisy. Are we guilty of the very thing we are getting onto someone else for?
- Today we pick up where left off - Comparison Precision & Intention Evaluation

COMPARISON

1. Before you criticize remember that all sins are not the same size. Matt. 7:4
 - a. The Carpenter is calling our attention to a comparison - speck – vs – log big/little
 - b. All sin is sin, but all sin is not the same some are bigger than others
2. Sometimes we tend to make a mountain out of a mole hill
 - a. Is it worth getting worked up over? Prov. 19:11- it is good to overlook an offense
 - b. We don't need to confront and correct every problem. Lk. 6:36- 38 mercy/pardon/love
3. Do I see my sins as big and my neighbor's sins as small....or the other way around?
 - a. Am I straining out the gnat while swallowing the camel? (Matt. 23:24)
 - b. We tend to minimize our own sins while magnifying our neighbor's sins. (Luke 18:9-14)
 - i. We make our mountain of sin into a mole hill (our logs distort our perception)
 - c. Before an accusation do a comparison 1 Tim. 1:15 – saw himself as chief
 - d. See your sins as bigger and your neighbors as smaller. I have the log they have speck

PRECISION & INTENTION

- After our LOG is acknowledged and removed we are in a position to help others with their speck
 - Matt. 7:5 - After the first steps.... then we can *see clearly* to precisely deal with brother.
 - Our *logs* limit our sight
 - Help people with their *speck* in light of your removed *log*. Not holier than thou
 - It takes clear sight and precision when you work/mess with someone's eye
- Others can see what we cannot. It is hard to see in your own eye – we need others
 - My smoke stain, to which I was oblivious, was so obvious to my friend. Seen is seconds
 - Lev. 19:17 not hating involves reproving Loving our neighbor
means we help our neighbor in addressing a sin problem Prov. 27:6

- Eyes are a tender area and it takes proper precision to pluck out a speck
 - Metal in my eye wife help not want go in- rather have needle at home than at doc.
Doctor - needle - drill (ream out so no rust ring)
 - I didn't like people messing around in my eye but I needed them to mess around in eye
 - Need someone to see what I couldn't and with tender precision take care of it
- We need others to SEE CLEARLY and to operate with PRECISION and good INTENTION
 - My friend who pointed out my stain was trying to help me sell the house
 - My wife and doctor digging around in my eye we doing so for my benefit
 - What is the INTENTION of the accusation, criticism or judgment? To help or harm?
 - Slander is an accusation, mixed with lies, that is meant to hurt and harm
 - It is just a poke in the eye with a dirty finger or a rough stick (bad intention)
 - The Devil is the slanderer/accuser. That is what his name means
 - Satan criticizes with truth & lies in order to destroy lives-intention is destruction
 - Proper judgment has precision and is given with the intention to help get the sin out

EVALUATION

1. We should evaluate how we view a criticism and receive an accusation
 - a. Matt. 7:6 Holy/sacred pearls/treasure
 - b. It is a precious thing to have your sin pointed out and should be received as a treasure
 - c. It was a blessing to see my stain. I was a grace/kindness to get metal out of eye
 - d. Psalm 141:5 Proverbs 25:11-12
 - e. It is unwise to automatically reject an accusation. (it's natural to wince but don't reject)
receive is as: gold, silver, precious oil... Eccles. 7:5
 - i. even if only a % is correct it is precious to have sin pointed out to get it out
2. Before we judge another we should make an evaluation whether they will receive correction
 - a. Matt. 7:6 some people are adverse to advice
 - b. A dog doesn't appreciate the precious. A pig will just trample pearls under the mud
 - c. Proverbs 9:7-8 to correct gets you: dishonor, insult and hate
 - d. Proverbs 29:9 to engage produces: rage, mocking laughter, endless strife
 - e. Proverbs 26:4-6 the dilemma of a no win situation
 - f. Matt. 7:6 some don't appreciate what is precious – trample it & attack you
3. It's interesting that in passage about not judging, a judgment/determination is to be made about the character of the one you are confronting. An evaluation on whether they will receive correction
 - a. Titus 3:10-11 don't "beat a dead horse" or "give pearls to pigs"
 - i. Pigs, Dogs and Logs ... Oh my what a judgment in passage about not
 - ii. We are to make an evaluation before (endless) accusation/correction – Matt. 7:6
4. The gospel goes out the same way
 - a. Accusation - Repent... (the chief proclaimers are the chief of sinners)
 - b. The intention is to help with a sin problem good news!
 - i. The great Physician can get sin out with precision/intention of helping you out
 - c. How do you hear this? Gold, silver, precious oil, sacred, holy, treasure?
 - i. It is sacred to be confronted about sin. An opportunity to get rid of the stain
 - d. I won't beat a dead horse. Matt. 10:14 - no pressure, no fuss – just pleasant invitation