

'Luke' - Extra Teaching Points #10

Luke 6:37-49 (NASB95)

Luke 6:37-38

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; pardon, and you will be pardoned.” ³⁸ *“Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure — pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.”*

Q: What does “Do not judge, and you will not be judged” mean?

- Obviously we are to judge some things, ([John 7:24](#), [1Cor 5:12](#), [1Cor 6:2-4](#)), so this is not saying we are *never* to judge.
- This is probably a continuation of His teaching on being loving.
- I think Jesus wants us to focus on **how loving we are being**; not on **how unloving others might be**.

Q: Is it OK to tell someone when he or she is not being loving?

- It probably comes down to motive.
 - If you are trying to judge and condemn someone, you are out of line.
- [Gal. 6:1-5](#) ***“Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted. ² Bear one another’s burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another. ⁵ For each one will bear his own load.”***
 - If you are showing pardon, refusing to be offended, and simply trying to “gently correct”, you are ‘bearing another’s burden’, and fulfilling the Law of Christ.
 - **Q: Why does Paul warn us to “look to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted”?**
 - You might not be tempted to sin in the same way they have, but you might be tempted to be offended or take their sin as personal.

Vs. 38 *“Give, and it will be given to you”... “For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.”*

- When we are merciful and resist the temptation to judge and condemn, we plant that same attitude in others.
- When we refuse to hold grudges, and instead pardon offenses, people are much more likely to pardon *our* offenses.

Luke 6:39-45

“And He also spoke a parable to them: “A blind man cannot guide a blind man, can he? Will they not both fall into a pit?” ⁴⁰ ***“A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher.”***

- It is good to give guidance to people – *teach them how to be loving* – **if you aren’t blind to your own defects.**
 - The people who learn from you will not do any better at judging righteously than you do!
 - If you are blind to your defects, you will teach others to be blind to theirs as well.
 - I think this is what we call “self-righteousness!”
 - The problem with being self-righteous is that **you and those who listen to you will end up caught in a trap.**

⁴¹ ***“Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?”*** ⁴² ***“Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother’s eye.”***

- Specks and logs are essentially the same problem... the only difference is the size of the wood.
 - **They both have the same problem—failing to measure up to God’s standard of loving like Jesus does.**
 - The person with the log in his eye doesn’t notice his problem, but he sure notices other people’s problems!
- Jesus isn’t telling us to never notice other people’s faults, or try to help them; but it is always wrong to deal with others before you have dealt with yourself.
 - When we use God’s standards to **correct others, but not ourselves**, we have a “double-standard.”
 - When we allow double standards to exist, we are weaponizing something that was supposed to teach **us** how to be loving! What a paradox!
- When we do this to others, we can be sure that others will do this to us too!

*⁴³ “For there is no good tree which produces bad fruit, nor, on the other hand, a bad tree which produces good fruit. ⁴⁴ “For each tree is known by its own fruit. For **men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they pick grapes from a briar bush.** ⁴⁵ “The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.”*

Q: Why does Jesus move the discussion to identifying people by their fruit, after He has spent so much time talking about judging?

- Maybe Jesus is telling us how to decide whom we should deem a good teacher to be trained by.
 - If we are trying to learn how to live a life of love from people who are more concerned with telling us how unloving we are, than they are with dealing with their own lack of love, maybe we are looking for figs and grapes in the wrong places.
 - People like that can’t feed us; they can only cut us!
- If someone only seems to have condemning things to say to you, maybe all they really have in their hearts is condemnation, or the desire to elevate themselves.
 - People like that will never be satisfied with you... no matter how much you do.

Luke 6:46-49

*“**Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?** ⁴⁷ “Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: ⁴⁸ he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. ⁴⁹ “But the one who has heard and has not acted accordingly, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great.”*

Q: What has Jesus’ message in the sermon on the plain been about, and why do you think He ends it like this?

- If you apply Jesus’ teaching to yourself, and build your life on learning how to live a life of love, your life will be built on a foundation that will weather any storm.
- If you are more worried about showing others how unloving they are, than you are about being loving yourself, whatever you are building will eventually fall apart!

Follow Up Assignment

Q: Do you tend to judge and condemn those who are unloving... or pardon them?

Q: Do you have any double standards you need to deal with?

- If so, what are they, and how can you “get the log out”?