

Cultivate Gospel of Luke Study

Lesson Thirteen

Read and meditate on Luke Chapter 6 this week
and prayerfully answer the following questions before Tuesday's class.

Read Luke 6:37,38

As God's Spirit-filled children we should treat others as the Lord would treat them. Our thoughts and actions should line up with God's nature of being loving and forgiving when we are wronged, instead of seeking out reasons to judge others. It's the simple Golden Rule of treating others the way we want to be treated.

Warren Wiersbe- "Luke 6:37-38 reminds us that we reap what we sow and in the amount that we sow. If we judge others, we will ourselves be judged. If we forgive, we shall be forgiven, but if we condemn, we shall be condemned (see Matt. 18:21-35). He was not talking about eternal judgment but the way we are treated in this life."

1. How are we likely to judge someone who attacks our faith? How are we likely to condemn them? But, why do they need a pardon from us?

Jesus is talking about how believers treat unbelievers. We are not to determine whether or not someone deserves to hear the Gospel based on our own opinions, assessments or persecution (perceived or real) of the individual.

2. Does this verse suggest that we are to stay silent when we see things that are opposed to God's word? Explain.

3. Is there a difference between judging the World and judging another believer's walk? What Scripture can you find on this subject?

Read verse 38.

4. Does this verse speak to giving money and *only* what it is speaking to? Explain your answer.

Examine your willingness to put forth effort, to give love and kindness and mercy, willingness to share burdens and willing, if necessary to give financially.

Do you want mercy? Then be merciful.

Do you want to be forgiven, then be willing to forgive.

Read verses 39-43.

5. Verse 41 in the NIV translation is worded, *"Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?"* And New Living Translations says, *"And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own?"*

What does this imply about each one of us? It doesn't say "if" you have a log, but says "when".

Wiersbe- "This is a warning against pride, for nothing blinds a person like pride...The emphasis here is on being honest with ourselves and not becoming hypocrites. It is easy to try to help a brother with his faults just so we can cover up our own sins! People who are constantly criticizing others are usually guilty of something worse in their own lives."

Read 2 Samuel 12:1-15.

Speck and Plank- Guzik "Our hypocrisy in these matters is almost always more evident to others than to ourselves. We may find a way to ignore the plank in our own eye, but others notice it immediately. A good example of this kind of hypocrisy was David's reaction to Nathan's story about a man who unjustly stole and killed another man's lamb. David quickly condemned the man, but was blind to his own sin, which was much greater.

What are we to learn from verses 39-43?

The Pharisees whole job was to be religious inspectors pointing out the failures of the people.

I am basically judging your sin while I am sinning myself.

The more we judge others, the more we see ourselves as righteous.

If I lay a burden on you that I do not apply to myself then I am a hypocrite.

We must be very careful how we approach someone else's sin.

6. How should we handle someone we know who is in some sort of sin? If its cheating on their taxes or cheating on their spouse, do we handle it differently?

Read Verses 44-45.

Wiersbe- "The illustration of the tree reminds us that fruit is always true to character. An apple tree produces apples, not oranges, and a good person produces good fruit, not evil. Believers do sin, but the witness of their words and works is consistently good to the glory of God. In terms of ministry, servants of God who are faithful will reproduce themselves in people who are in turn true to the Lord (2 Tim. 2:2)."

7. We have an opportunity for Self-evaluation. Does our life bear good fruit, bad fruit or no fruit?

What would be an example of a life bearing good fruit?

Write out Galatians 5:22,23.

Verse 45

Wiersbe- "The last image, the treasury, teaches us that what comes out of the lips depends on what is inside the heart. The human heart is like a treasury, and what we speak reveals what is there. A man who apologized for swearing by saying, "It really wasn't in me!" heard a friend say, "It had to be in you or it couldn't have come out of you!" We must be honest with ourselves and admit the blind spots in our lives, the obstacles that blur our vision, and the areas within that must be corrected. Then we can be used of the Lord to minister to others and not lead them astray."

Verses 46-49

8. The Illustration that Jesus points to here speaks of two men who build houses. What is the difference between the two houses?

9. According to Jesus' own words, what is the 'foundation'?

10. Based on this passage, is it enough to just read your Bible? Or is there another responsibility?

11. What other Scripture verses reference the importance of being a "doer of the Word"?

12. How does Jesus describe a follower of His in this passage?

Dear Sister, Where is your house built?
