

UNCOMMON

THE UPSIDE DOWN KINGDOM OF JESUS

LUKE 6:37-42 | DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In this part of Jesus' sermon on the mount he's addressing hypocrisy. When you hear the word hypocrite, what comes to mind and why? What did it mean back then and how should that shape our own understanding?
2. There's a relationship between hypocrisy & a harsh/critical spirit. What is it? How does Jesus' teaching in this passage address that problem?
3. Hypocrisy requires that we project a false image to others. For that to happen we must first convince ourselves of that lie. How do we become "blind to the plank in our own eye?" How might we safeguard ourselves against this tendency?
4. Transparency is a pathway to integrity. Who, in your life, helps you to see that which you'd otherwise be blind to? What role do other Christians play in promoting personal integrity? How are you allowing them to play that role? What fears (obstacles) must be overcome for this to happen in a healthy way?
5. Jesus doesn't say that Christians can't judge each other. He encourages it! But, according to this passage, what is the right spirit and approach for Christians to take when "removing the speck from another person's eye?" How do you know when you're prepared and qualified for this kind of judgement?
6. Jesus is getting at the difference between criticizing and healing. What's the difference? How have you seen this at play in and around you? When was it done well and when was it done poorly? What lessons can we learn?
7. Where do believers find the power and motivation for the kind of personal integrity and relational accountability that Jesus promotes in in this passage? How have you experienced it? What must be done to bring it about?
8. In light of today's message, what are some concrete and practical steps you will take today so that you apply the Word to your life? How can we help?