

To Judge or Not to Judge?

Jesus for Everyone Message Series Week 5

Luke 6:37-49

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Followers of Jesus will...

1. Be accepting, forgiving, and giving. (Luke 6:37-38)

Jesus is not teaching to not confront other believers about their sin.

Jesus is not teaching each person is free to determine what is right for them.

2. Be careful who they follow. (Luke 6:39-40)

“If we follow people who are hypercritical and condemning, sooner or later their manner becomes a part of our language and manner. If we follow someone who always builds others up, who shows kindness and humility, then we will likewise learn to be compassionate, patient, and tender.”

Thabiti Anyabwile, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Luke*, B&H Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, 2018, p. 123.

3. Own their sin before confronting others. (Luke 6:41-42)

How to confront:

- a. **Humbly**- by being aware of your sinfulness
- b. **Prayerfully**- to go without prayer is foolish; only God can convict and change a heart
- c. **Biblically**- confront based on Scripture
- d. **Lovingly and gently**- have the best interest of the other person in mind
- e. **Privately**

4. Be in tune with their hearts. (Luke 6:43-45)

“Once you trace the fruit to the root, invite the Spirit to reveal the truth of who God is and what he has done for you in Christ. Ask him to give you the ability to see and believe the truth, repent from lies or unbelief, and turn to God in faith through Jesus. In other words, work your way from root to fruit. This work requires knowing the gospel and spending regular time reading the Bible so as to be more equipped to speak the truth of God to the circumstances or situations you find yourself or others in.”

Jeff Vanderstelt, *Gospel Fluency*, Crossway, Wheaton, IL, 2017, p. 129.

5. Obey His words. (Luke 6:46-49)

“Every time we truly hear the Word and are authentically moved, we must resolve to act upon it. Most of the time the resolution will not be dramatic or grand, but what seems to be some small action. Perhaps it will be a note written, an adjustment at work, an apology, a gift, a few words of witness, a commitment, a kind word, a subtle change in attitude. But the key is, do it! Do not procrastinate or you will forget it. And when you do it, you will be stepping into true discipleship. Each step will become more natural and a little easier.”

R. Kent Hughes, *Luke*, Crossway, Wheaton, IL, 2015, p. 256.