

Home Group Discussion Questions

Sunday March 27th

Luke 6:37-45

Icebreaker: Can you think of a time when you made a really bad judgement or really good judgement? It could be humorous or serious.

Question: Was there anything that particularly spoke to you in the sermon this Sunday? Or that you disagreed with or were confused about?

Read the passage: Luke 6:37-45

Intro and Summary:

This Sunday's sermon was on what Jesus had to say about judgmentalism, hypocrisy and generosity. His points were:

- **Judging Judgmentalism**
- **Lifting the mask**
- **Nailing the Problem**

Judging Judgmentalism:

'Judge not, and you will not be judged.' Has become one of the best known – and most hopelessly interpreted verses in the whole bible.

Question: What kind of judging do you think Jesus was referring to here?

Jesus judges - he calls the Pharisees hypocrites and snakes and blind guides – and we are also called to make certain judgments:

Read 1 John 4:1 and 1 Thess 5:20-21

Question: what do these verses tell us about judging?

Question: How can we know the difference between being judgemental and judging wisely?

Jesus calls those who are a part of his kingdom to have a generosity of spirit towards others, which means forgiving and showing generosity.

Question: What do giving and forgiving have in common?

Question: What do you think Jesus is referring to when he says in verse 38 'give and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over will be put into your lap.' How do you think God might bring this about our lives? – what shape might such blessing take?

Lifting the mask

Hypocrisy is pretending to be someone else, concealing the real self behind a mask.

Question: Why does Jesus have such strong language (such as ‘notice the log that is in your own eye’) for hypocrites?

Question: How can we – instead of wearing a mask, and being hypocrites, become people of integrity, who see what the issues with our own hearts are?

Notice that Jesus does not say that you shouldn’t attempt to remove the speck from your brothers’ eye completely but simply that you should concentrate on removing yours first. Then remove theirs.

We are still called to be to be the kind of people who lovingly, graciously, kindly help others deal with their issues.

Question: have you had experience of doing this, or of others doing this to you? What helped this to be successful (or not!)?

Nailing the Problem

Jesus gives us two pointers as to how this issue of our heart is going to be dealt with. The first is repentance and the second is that it matters who you turn to.

Question: Why is repentance crucial to dealing with the problem of hypocrisy in our lives?

Jesus said ‘Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit?’ He was warning people not to follow the wrong people.

Question: How can we ensure that we do not follow blind guides?