



May 14, 2017 - Pastor Bruce French



What do our choices produce?

Principle one:

*If we cultivate _____ we germinate
_____ . Luke 6:37a*

Application one:

Take time to spend in _____ . Luke 6:41-42

Principle two:

*If we foster _____ we find
_____ . Luke 6:37b-38*

Application two:

Take time to spend with _____ . Luke 6:39-40

TAKE HOME TRUTH

*What you _____
is what you _____.*

To avoid criticism...

- A. _____ your own spiritual climate.**
- B. _____ of potential similarities.**
- C. _____ how you wish to be treated.**

Today's Core Virtue:

Humility: *"I choose to esteem others above myself." (from Philippians 2:3-4)*



Deeper Connection Study

Jesus wants his disciples to exemplify humility and mercy in their dealings with others. An important part of this is determining the extent of one's judgmental spirit and how they deal with others. It is all too easy to miss the ways we can be critical without coming to grips with our own flaws.

Today's Core Virtue discussed: Humility.

Read Luke 6:37-42 (cf. Matt. 7:1-5)

1. What four commands does Jesus give and what results from obeying them (vv. 37-38)?
2. How is the second part of verse 38 a promise? How is it also a cautionary exhortation?
3. What is the point of Jesus' parable (vv. 39-40) and how does it fit the context?
4. How does verse 36 act a hinge between verses 27-35 and 37-42? How can you be merciful like your heavenly Father (cf. Ps. 86:15; 103:4; 112:4; Jas. 2:13)?
5. How easy is it for you to point out a flaw or problem in another person without considering your own flaws? Are there specific instances when this regularly occurs?
6. What are practical ways you can follow Jesus' words? What changes in attitudes and actions are needed?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God that he is merciful. Pray for the removal of any judgmental attitudes or actions in your life. Ask God to help you lovingly extend mercy to others. Pray for humility as you seek to obey these commands of Jesus.

21st Century Jesus

Luke 6:37-42



A

t one time or another, everyone experiences unsolicited criticism. You may have experienced it from a person who didn't approve of your driving and let you know by blowing their horn. Perhaps it came from a neighbor who felt led to comment on how dirty your car was. More than likely the criticism came from someone who was a lot closer to you...maybe your sibling who mocked what you were wearing, or perhaps your spouse who didn't care for your joke at the party earlier that day. Regardless who it came from it left a bruise on your soul. Scripture has a lot to say about criticism and judgment that is insensitively offered, and some very stern words related to it come from Jesus himself. The interesting aspect is that he draws a correlation between the criticism we receive and the criticism we offer.

Would you consider yourself to be a critical person? Probably not, but after you hear Jesus' teaching on the subject you must ask yourself why you are being criticized.