

Small Group Questions | November 12th, 2017

Kingdom Values: Kingdom Attitude (Matthew 7:1-12)

Sermon Recap: Travis said Jesus is calling us to replace our condemning or condoning attitudes with a kingdom attitude: one that is **humble, helpful, welcoming** and **wise**. God forbids condemnation (judgment) but encourages evaluation. We must seek to gain awareness of the logs in our own eyes and accept feedback with grace. With our new posture of humility we can then approach our brothers/sisters privately and with gentleness; NOT “dumping the bucket” on them.

Hook: *These questions can help encourage conversation.*

1. Where have you seen our culture be condemning or condoning?

Look: *Read the sermon passage. Answer the following textual questions.*

2. Jesus says we are not to judge. Why is this the case and how is it connected to the original sin (Garden of Eden, Gen 3:4-5)?
3. How does Jesus' use of the humorous image (speck/log) in v. 1-6 make his point? What is his point? Where do we see humble, helpful, welcoming and wise in this section?
4. Read 2 Kings 5:1-14. What does Naaman story teach us about humility?
5. Read Gal. 6:1-2. What approaches does Paul offer to remove specks from a brother/sister's eye?

Took: *Applying the message to our lives.*

6. Travis talked about Naaman's leprosy as a metaphor for our own sinful condition. Why do you struggle to see your own leprosy? When do you struggle to come to Jesus to be washed? Is there somebody you trust to point out your logs/sinful condition?
7. Travis highlighted we are to welcome feedback. Can you share a time when one of these triggers (Truth, Relational, and Identity) prevented you from hearing truth?
8. As a small group, how can you encourage risking emotional exposure? Why is this so important for community?
9. Is there someone in your life who God is calling you to help privately and gently? What aspect of speck evaluation is hardest for you? (Proverbs 9:7-9)

Prayer/Verse: You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye. – Matt 7:5