

Mercy as a Measure: Jesus' Call to Grace

Luke 6:37-42 ▪ Sunday, April 27, 2025 ▪ Nick Braitto

What not to do: Throw out _____ entirely.

What to do:

Show others the _____ you would want to be shown yourself. (37-38)

Learn your sense of discernment by looking at _____. (39-40)

Make humble _____ your first act of discernment. (41-42)

Luke 6:37-42

³⁷ "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

³⁹ He also told them a parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? ⁴⁰ A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.

⁴¹ "Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?

⁴² How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye." (ESV)

Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions

Open: Share about a time you felt unfairly judged. How did you feel or respond?

Read & Discuss: Luke 6:37-42

1. What would you say to someone who claimed that because Jesus said, "Judge not" (v. 37a), Christians are not allowed to pass judgment on anyone or anything? What Scriptures would you use to support your position?
2. How does our willingness to forgive others impact the way we might judge them (v. 37c)? What helps or motivates you to forgive others in those times when it goes against your first instinct?
3. Given that there is a place for things like spiritual discernment (Romans 12:2) and theological assessment (Acts 17:11), how do we practice wise discernment without having a critical spirit? What does it look like to judge others with mercy and generosity rather than condemnation (vv. 37-38)?
4. When Jesus speaks of the blessing that comes from showing grace, mercy, and generosity to others in verses 37-38, do you think He's referring to blessings we'll receive from others, blessings from God in this life, or blessings from God in the next life? Why? What form might these blessings take?
5. How does Jesus' statement in verse 39 about the blind leading the blind relate to the way we judge others? How can we ensure we're not being unduly influenced by those who are "blind" or that we're not actually the ones who are "blind" ourselves?
6. Jesus said, "A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher" (v. 40). How should this verse shape the way we approach becoming better at discernment? What does this verse mean for how we live before those that we're influencing?
7. In verse 41 Jesus alludes to our predisposition to be more critical of faults in others than we are of our faults. Why do you think we do this? How can we cultivate personal self-awareness before addressing someone else's shortcomings?
8. Jesus doesn't say we should *never* help remove the "speck" from someone else's eye (v. 42). So, what does healthy, Christlike correction look like? How can we ensure that we correct others well and with the right motives?

Apply: What are some ways we can apply Jesus' teachings from this passage in our daily interactions with others—whether in our family, with our friends, others at church, those at work, or even those outside our close network of relationships?

Pray: Ask God to grant us wisdom in judging rightly, humility in self-examination, and grace in our relationships with others.