

**CROSS WALK**  
Pastor Bill  
January 28, 2018

*Welcome Without Judgment*

**Scripture:** Luke 7:36-50 (NLT)

**WELCOME:** Receiving appreciatively the presence of another and communicating that to them.

**JUDGMENT:** A negative assessment of another person based upon a superficial sense of superiority.

Luke 6:37 (NLT) *“Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, and you will be forgiven. Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.”*

1. Jesus Christ **welcomes all** who come to Him. (Luke 7:36-37)
  - Isaiah 53:6 (NIV) *“We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”*
  - Proverbs 3:7a (NLT) *“Don’t be impressed with your own wisdom.”*
  - Philippians 2:3b (NLT) *“Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.”*
2. **Selective judgment** results in **religious hypocrisy**. (Luke 7:38-48)

**DISCERNMENT:** Perception in the absence of judgment with a view to obtaining spiritual direction and understanding.

**NOTES:**

We become the judgmental Pharisee when we forget that we are the sinful woman.

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**HOMEGROUP and Personal Study Questions**

1. When discussing judgment, how do you understand the term? Can you explain what judgment is and why it is something that Jesus speaks so strongly against? (Luke 6:37a)
2. Are there judgments that we should make? If yes, what are the criteria for making sound judgment? If no, are all things permissible?
3. Compare and contrast the teaching of Jesus, “Do not judge others...” with the exhortation of Paul, “Are you not to judge those on the inside?” (1 Cor 5:11-13). Are these instructions contradictory? Please give a reason for your answer.
4. Jesus, in the words of Luke, instructs us, “Do not judge. Do not condemn others. Forgive others.” Do you think these instructions are connected in some way? Can you explain your thoughts?
5. What does “welcoming others” mean to you? When we read that Jesus welcomes all who come to him, are we to understand that Jesus really welcomes all with no exceptions? Who is “all” to you? Please give examples of how you might become more welcoming in an everyday application.
6. Can you explain what “religious hypocrisy” might look like? Have you ever been guilty of religious hypocrisy? Can you provide examples for your responses?
7. Consider some intentional next steps:
  - Welcoming a neighbor or reconciling a strained relationship with a neighbor or coworker.
  - Consider a coffee date or lunch invitation to “mend fences.”
  - Ask another for forgiveness if your judgmental attitudes have been the source of strained or non-existent relationships (consider your attitude toward piercings, tattoos, dress attire, political positions/activism, etc.)