

## TODAY'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome by: bobby Rader /Opening Prayer by: on Taylor

Morning Assembly Song Leader: Michael Simmons

#23 Our God, He Is Alive

#429 Oh, To Be Like Thee

Scripture Reading by: Parker Balch

#313 The Old Rugged Cross

**Lord's Supper and Contribution**

#648 Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

**Sermon: "Love is Polite"**

**Luke 7:44-46**

#945 Kneel at the Cross

#622 Ring Out the Message

Closing Prayer by: Wayne Noonkester

Welcome by: Bobby Rader

Evening Assembly Song Leader: Michael Simmons

#570 A Beautiful Life

#180 Jesus Is Lord

Scripture Reading: Tristan Strickhausen

Prayer by: Daniel Balch

#47 Holy, Holy, Holy

**Sermon: "Twelve Ordinary Men: Philip"**

**John 1:43-44**

#286 Wonderful Story of Love

#753 Farther Along

Closing Prayer by: David Warren

### Other Opportunities For Spiritual Growth

**Sunday:** 9:00am — Bible Study Classes, 10:00am — Worship, 6:00pm — Worship

**Wednesday:** 10:00am — Ladies Bible Class, 7:00pm — Bible Study Classes

August 5, 2018

## ***"Stand Firm in...Liberty"***

Galatians 5:1

### Judge Righteous Judgement

*Judge not that you be not judged. (Matthew 7:1)*

This might be the most frequently quoted passage of Scripture in contemporary America. At least, it's habitually cited by people who rip it from context without any idea of what Jesus meant by this statement. It is a convenient a verse to have in your back pocket to prove what you already want to believe. Accordingly, it is often used to advance moral relativism. "You live your lifestyle, and I'll live mine. Don't tell me how to live, and don't try to impose your standards of morality on me."

It seems that those who quote this verse the most are the very ones who understand it the least. It just happens to align with the tone and spirit of the times. We must understand that there is a difference between being judgmental and being discerning. Aesop's fable of The Fox and The Sick Lion might help us understand the concept:

*A Lion, unable from old age and infirmities to provide himself with food by force, resolved to do so by savvy or wit. He returned to his den, and lying down there, pretended to be sick, taking care that his sickness should be publicly known. The beasts expressed their sorrow, and came one by one to his den, where the Lion devoured them. After many of the beasts had thus disappeared, the Fox discovered the trick and presenting himself to the Lion, stood on the outside of the cave, at a respectful distance, and asked him how he was. "I am very sick," replied the Lion, "but why do you stand without? Pray enter within to talk with me." "No, thank you," said the Fox. "I notice that there are many prints of feet entering your cave, but I see no trace of any returning."*

The fox was not being judgmental. He was discerning.

In this passage, Jesus is speaking about self-righteous, loveless, hypercritical judgment. He warns against ill-natured disapproval, hasty and half-formed opinions, and the conscious or unconscious assertion of our own superiority. It is not a teaching against discernment.

## Our Sick

**Doris Trahan** will be taking chemo treatments in the future.

**Frances Petree** is in Fall Creek Rehab in Humble.

**Cheryl Mast** is in Liberty Health Care room 606 for therapy.

## Continued Prayers

### (Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Gwen Pettit, James Scott, Gary Nielsen, Harold Cryer, Gerald Lucy, Steve Ward, Teresa McKewen, Jackie David, Patricia Padon, Frank & Tina Garcia, Ronnie Davis, Bill Lunceford, Eric Davis, J. P. Williams, Mark Wilcox, Phillip Cottle,

## Shut Ins

### (Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Jim Smith, Pauline Taylor, Winona Angelle, Pat Henley, Myrtle Sheffield, Ronnie Rubit, Joe Leonard, Dr. Ronald Davis

## Our Missionaries

Aaron & Marisa Bailey in Mwanza, Africa, Rod Kyle in the South Pacific

## Plastic Bags

The Food Bank is in need of plastic grocery bags. A barrel is in the foyer.

## Upcoming Activities

**Elders, Deacons, Minister** meet Monday, Aug 6th at 7:00 pm.

We will be having a Houston Food Bank truck on Tuesday, Aug. 7th at 8:30 am.

**Primetimers** will be going to Italiano's in Atascocita on Tuesday, Aug. 14th at 4:30 pm. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board.

We will be having a Fish Fry on Sunday, Aug. 19th after morning service in the family life center. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board for side dishes.

## Children's Bible Hour

We will not be having children's Bible Hour so that the current teachers can have a break.

## New Members

Please add, Mike, Theresa and Harmony Whittington to your directory. Their address is: 1008 CR 6243, Dayton, TX 77535. Phone number 936-402-4812.

## Privilege to Serve

Sunday, Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>

Communion Preparation: Susan Smith

Nursery Attendants: Lynette Ward, Debra Faneros

Communion Preparation for Sunday, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>: Cathy Stifflemire

Nursery Attendants for Sunday, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>: Raven Lartigue & Sharon Lartigue

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Jesus' words are often misapplied to forbid all manner of judgement. But in considering the immediate context of the passage, there are some cases where proper judgment *must* be made. Verse 6 implies judgment to distinguish the "dogs" from the "hogs" Otherwise how can we know when not to *give dogs what is holy*? How can we know when not to *cast your pearls before swine*? **Matthew 7:15-20** implies we must make judgments in determining who is a false teacher. Jesus says *you will recognize them by their fruits*. While he precludes us being prejudicial or judging people's motives, Jesus does not forbid us from being "fruit inspectors". You see, there are times when judgment must be made; Jesus even tells us to *judge with righteous judgment (John 7:24)*.

If we read this text within its context, Jesus defined the kind of judgment he is condemning. He condemns those who judge and are blind to their own faults. He condemns judging without mercy and love. And he tells us why with a warning: *For with the judgement you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. (Matthew 7:2)* God will apply the same standard to us that we do to others. If we make judgments without showing mercy, then no mercy will be shown when we are judged! Let mercy and love temper our judgments.

We must not let people keep us from discernment by playing this passage as a trump card. But I don't want God nit-picking me to death. So I must not nit-pick others. We are not to be critical in our spirit but loving and merciful. When we try to lovingly tell others that they need to make changes in their lives, we must not let them use this passage as a way to make us feel we have no right to say anything to them. Yet, at the same time, we must make sure our attitude is kind and loving.

The next time you are ready to play the critical spirit card on someone, ask yourself: "Is this how I want to be judged?"

## ***"Stand Firm in...Liberty"***

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