

Luke 6:39-49

In the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

The Passage today is the end of the Sermon that Jesus spoke on the Plain. Jesus has talked about loving your enemies, turning the other cheek and not to judge and you will not be judged. Now in summation, he finishes up his teaching in the form of a parable or riddle.

“Can a blind person guide a blind person?” Do you think a blind person can guide you? You might, but you are more than likely be led astray, guided blindly and led down the wrong path. In Jesus' time the Pharisees were blinded with pride, prejudice and bigotry, did they point people in the right direction? Jesus is asking us to be a guide with clear instructions which enable us to see.

A guide with clear instructions, who's actions points people to Jesus and through these actions can guide others toward Him. Jesus is making the point that we should not pick fault in others when we do not practice what we preach. -

In verse 40 “A disciple is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully qualified will be like the teacher” Every disciple wants to be like the teacher and to be known – someone who points to Jesus. First Jesus taught his disciples; then they put his teaching into practice which gave them the knowledge to put them in a position to teach others. When they taught, they didn't dismiss or forget the origin of what they were taught. For what they were ordinally taught is the form and structure that is true and consistent. Teachers may teach differently as long they follow that original form or structure. The same outcome is achieved because it is grounded and based on what the original teacher had intended. We have all been to school, we have learnt many things and built on some of that to gain a stable position in life.

I have done Martial Arts for years, first learning to do the basics (the form and structure) and when I demonstrated that I could put what I had learnt into practice I was given the responsibility to be a teacher, and always when teaching I would make a point of referring back to how my Master had taught me.

Now studying at college, I am learning more about myself, scripture and being able to put into practice what I am learning and what Jesus had taught, and then being able to communicate and teach others.

In verses 41-42 we are looking at Hypocrisy - Jesus is instructing us not to presume to teach others if we have not applied it already to ourselves. How do we avoid this? We read the Bible to begin the journey in making a connection with God. We don't pass judgement on others (speck in their eye) if we are not living what we are passing judgement on (the log in your eye)

“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; this is looking at the Attitude of the Heart. Know your own heart first before we presume to say anything to another person. We need to attend to oneself before attending

to others. "Don't pick figs from thorn bushes or grapes from a bramble bush". A good person brings out the good that stored up in their heart as an evil person brings out the evil that is stored in their heart. For what the mouth speaks, is what the heart is full of.

And finally, the building of solid foundations. Do we need to look carefully at what our foundation is? Knowing scripture, loving the word, hearing the word is all well and good but if our foundation cannot be dug down deep into solid rock (in our hearts), it is not of great value; unless we put the words of the Lord Jesus into practice. We are asked to put into action what we know.

How do we Build a strong Christian Life? It begins in establishing and building a strong foundation. When you build a house, you will do research, test and survey before you build your house; so too with what you know of scripture and put into practice has a good grounding for building strong faith.

For if you find that the survey on the land is saying you are building on sand and is unstable, but you build anyway, eventually because it is unstable; within time the house may wash away. However, if you could have persevered and found land that passed the survey and was approved to be built on (rock) and from that you decide to build, then you can be assured that the house built on it will withstand whatever elements are presented and thrown at it.

With this final image of a built house, us digging a foundation to survive the storm, we have listened to the words of Jesus and responded to them.

The word of Jesus is in our heart when we put His words into practice. That is how the heart can be changed through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Remember the speck in the eye; hear God's word and put into practice yourself and then you can lead and help others.

Be led and guided by those who can see. Hear Gods word and put it into practice in your life. The way to see this happen is to start reading your bible, and you will see what's there, stretch yourself and not go over what you already know, this will not challenge or pose questions that extends your faith. To find answers or even maybe more questions, look at bits you don't know so well, the bits that you may be uncomfortable with. What you will find is wisdom that can make a change in your life, providing you put it into practice.

What log is in your eye? Is it something you knew was wrong when you started doing it? And what you know now is why you stopped doing it. Is there a habit you need to set in or is there a habit you need to change?

Read, speak and hear the words of the Lord Jesus and put them into practice.

Let us Pray

Lord Jesus

Let us learn from your word

To form strong foundations, that can withstand and strengthen our faith

Enable us to help rather than to judge others

May when we teach, that we are living what you have taught us

May we all be from the tree that bears good fruit.

Living and putting what we learn into practice.

We ask this in your name.

Amen