



Series: Unexpected Messiah

Passage Mathew 7:1-6

Title: Four Behaviors Harming Your Life – Part 2

Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 6/14/2020

Discussion Starter – What connection do you see between the beatitudes and these four harmful behaviors?

The Harmful Behavior of Being Judgmental (verses 7:1-6)

- Jesus choose to mention this particular behavior because He knew that we all stumble when it comes to having a critical spirit. What are some of the things you tend to be more critical about with others?
- In what way can having a common critical spirit seem to bond people together? What is the problem with this thinking?
- How do we think judging others benefits us? What is wrong with this thinking?
- How can we exhort someone and not be judgmental?
- What are some examples of where our concern for others turns into being judgmental or critical of others? What does Jesus' example of looking at the speck in our brother's eye reveal about the things we observe in our critical nature?
- Having a critical spirit hinders our growth and shrinks our territory. Explain what this means.
- How does having a critical spirit effect our personal relationships? Read Proverbs 17:9 and Ephesians 4:29. Discuss the insights gained from these verses.
- Read Matthew 13:12 and Luke 6:37-38. What insights do these verses give us and how can they if properly applied, enable us to expand our territory?
- What is the difference between the warning Jesus gives not to judge others and taking a stand against evil to protect what is right?

Don't Cast Your Pearls Before Swine (Verse 7:7)

- Explain in your own words what Jesus means by this instruction not to cast your pearls before swine? What are some practical examples of this being true that you have seen in your own life? Read Mark 6:7-11 and Ecclesiastes 3:1. How do these verses apply to this warning by Jesus?
- How can casting your pearls before swine be considered harmful to you? What are some of the more serious long term effects of this harm?