

Things Stored in My Heart

Luke 6:37-49

Luk 6:37-49 NIV "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. 38 Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." 39 He also told them this parable: "**Can the blind lead the blind?** Will they not both fall into a pit? 40 **The student is not above the teacher**, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher. 41 "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and **pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?** 42 How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,' when **you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye?** You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye. 43 "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. 44 Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. **45 A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.** 46 "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? 47 As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. 48 They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. 49 But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete."

vs 45 What is it that I have stored up in my heart? (good or evil)

1) I can only speak from what my heart is full of (good or evil/hurtful/malicious)

Luke 6:45

- Bad food in the fridge

2) Life's experiences can affect my heart...

- Mat 24:12-13 NIV Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, 13 but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.

3) I play a role in what is stored in my heart

- Psalms 119:11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.
- Psalms 66:18 If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;

vs 39 & 42 We can become blind to the evil that is stored in our hearts

- vs 39 **Can the Blind Lead the Blind?** Will they both not fall into the pit?
- vs 42 How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,' when **you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye?**

Why this is important to Jesus?

- He is speaking to His disciples - they will be going out soon to make disciples
- Are they going to be blind leaders?
- vs 40 The student is not above His teacher

The Process that leads to blindness

- **vs 41 We pay no attention to the plank**
 - We act like it isn't there - We avoid talking about it - Although it is evident to most
 - We become used to the plank - we put up with it - it ceases to bother us
 - What used to be an irritant is now a companion that we tolerate
- **vs 42 We fail to see the plank - we have become blind**
 - We eventually fail to see the plank - maybe justifying ourselves - maybe spiritual blindness
- **vs 42 We turn our focus on the specks in others' eyes**
 - It is easier than dealing with my own heart
 - Luk 18:9-14 KJV And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others. Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. 12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. 13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.
- **vs 36 He started out giving us a simple plan for dealing with specks**
 - **Do not judge** - do not condemn - easy passive - just stop
 - **Forgive** and you will be forgiven - more difficult - a transaction - release
 - **Give** and it will be given unto you - invest - proactive - bless

1) Overcome the critical spirit

1) vs 42 We must make it a priority (FIRST) to act and remove the plank (THEN) we can remove the speck

- **Ask the LORD to search my heart - He is the only one who knows perfectly**
 - Psa 139:23-24 KJV Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: 24 And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.
- **Guard your heart**
 - Pro 4:23 NIV Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.
 - (NLT) ... for it determines the course of your life.
 - (ESV) ... for from it flow the springs of life.

2) Overcome unforgiveness

We will be treated the way we treat others

Matthew 18:35 KJV So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

- He owed 10,000 talents - (\$2,250,000,000) 2 Billion - 250 Million
http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How_much_is_10000_talents_worth
- His friend owed him 100 pence (\$16.00)
<http://www.biblestudy.org/beginner/bible-weights-and-measures.html>

NEVER forget how great a debt he has forgiven me?

- Luke 7:47-48 ESV Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven--for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." (48) And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

3) Overcome evil with good - do not be overcome with evil - overcome evil with good

- Give and men shall give back to you - generously
 - (this is not an investment strategy - but a move for freedom)
- It is a call to place God first
- Luk 12:34 NIV For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
 - **when you give - your heart goes with it...**
- Pro 11:24-26 NIV One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. 25 A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed. 26 People curse the one who hoards grain, but they pray God's blessing on the one who is willing to sell.

To sum it up:

Jesus is calling us to be concerned **FIRST** about the condition of my own heart.

Jesus is calling us to **NEVER FORGET** how much we have been forgiven.

Jesus is calling us to be **GENEROUS** and to give.

Joseph was a great example of this in how he treated his brothers

Consider Carefully the Future I Am Creating

46 "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? 47 As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. 48 They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. 49 But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete."

It is not IF a flood and torrent come - it is WHEN they come.

- You are presented with two futures
 - Could not be shaken - **BECAUSE** it was well-built
 - Collapse and complete destruction
- Where you land is dependent upon what we do with the words of Jesus
 - Lip service - you **CALL** me **LORD LORD**
 - Obedience - **HEAR** and put into **PRACTICE**