THEGOSPELOF

LUKE 6:36-38

Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap...



... For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness...



...let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

MERCY Looks Like...

Not Being JUDGEMENTAL



"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits.

1 Corinthians 5:11

But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one.



But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed



Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted

Our Judging Is Sinful When We...

- Don't Have All The Information
- Assume The Worst...Rather Than The Best
- Judge Based on Our Opinions
- Judge Motives
- Our Goal is Not to Build Up & Restore
- Withhold Forgiveness

Bridges

...is often practiced under the guise of being zealous for what is right. It's obvious that within our conservative evangelical circles there are myriads of opinions on everything from theology to conduct to lifestyle and politics. Not only are there multiple opinions but we usually assume our opinion is correct...



...That's where our trouble with judgmentalism begins. We equate our opinions with truth.

1 Corinthians 4:5

Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the <u>things now hidden in darkness</u> and will <u>disclose the purposes of the heart.</u> Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

John Stott

- Put the Worst Possible Construction on the Motives of Others...
- Take Joy in Pouring Cold Water on Their Schemes...
- Am Ungenerous Towards Their Mistakes



And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.



When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.



But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. And he prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,...



...and relenting from disaster. Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."...

