

Ask for discernment

Last night when I was praying about what my sermon was going to be about, Lisa was sitting beside me going through her phone, and she stopped and listened to this one video, and it was about judging others

The video starts off as passengers on a plane, a black man is sitting next to his daughter a white girl about 12 to 14 years old, that does not speak, the woman across the aisle is convinced that the black man has abducted her

She make a big scene on the plane, accusing the black man of abducting the white girl,

The flight attendant comes out and looks at there tickets and is satisfied. the woman keeps harassing him through the whole flight, and even has police waiting for him when they land

He finally tells the story how she became his daughter

sitting eating lunch one day he sees this homeless girl walk by so he decides to follow her, she is trying to take care of her sick mother, so he tries to help her mother, who is already dead, he calls authorities,

They powers to be tells him the young homeless girl will be put in foster care, so he decides to adopt her instead of letting her go into a foster home, for an added drama the black man says he does not know why the little girl can't speak (or basically communicate)

Then out of the clear blue the girl, says that her dad is her hero! The woman apologizes, then the moral of the story! DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER!

Don't get me wrong, I love a true story or a testimony , but the story has to much whip cream and to many cherries on top for me to believe it ! Me and Lisa had different opinions about the story.

Since this story came up, while I was praying about what to write for a sermon, I feel God wants me to talk about Judging others!

So lets jump into Matthew chapter 7

7 “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. 2 For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

That is a very big statement! And I am sure that it gets misquoted

We all are going to be judged, the bible promises that! And we will be judged by our hearts

Jesus said in John 14:15 (“If you love me, keep my commands.) that would be a nice way to be judged, that would mean you would judge other in love

Jesus tells us don't be a hypocrite in our judgements, and sharing his love, but he does encourage us to have discernment when dealing with others, and taking a truthful examination of ourselves

MATTHEW 7

6 “Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

MATTHEW 7

15 “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. 16 By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?”

In 1 Corinthians 12:10 it says that discernment is a gift of the holy spirit, when we look at Matthew 7:7-8 we says ask and it will be given to you

7 “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

We are still talking about judging others, but now we are filtering it through a gift of the holy spirit (discernment) so now we can see the people who reject the love of God,

6 “Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

We can see false prophets, we can see the world through holy glasses!

But the gift of discernment is a two way street we can look at our hearts in a Godly mirror

1 Corinthians 11

31 But if we were more discerning with regard to ourselves, we would not come under such judgment.

In 1 Corinthians 11 Paul talks about discerning our own hearts, he talks about examining ourselves before we take communion