

GO: The Gospel Starts with You Second

Luke 6:39-49

- i. This is the end of the Sermon on the Plain (6:17-49)
 - ii. Today features four really funny cartoon caricatures that ascend to the point...that the Gospel is all about following Jesus into unexpected places.
 - iii. We can be people who create space for others to stop and stare when we take what we do seriously but not take ourselves too seriously.
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- I. CARTOON CARICATURE #1: blind leading the blind (39-40)
 - A. Jesus is speaking against the Pharisees - they are blind.
 - B. The issue that disqualifies the Pharisees is not that they are blind (have flaws) but that they are blind to their blindness (flaws).
 - C. Moral superiority without emotional intelligence.
 - II. CARTOON CARICATURE #2: plank and speck (41-42)
 - A. This is really funny. Imagine going to the eye doctor with a plank in his eye.
 - B. It is easy to be deceived by our own altruism.
 - III. CARTOON CARICATURE #3: tree and her fruit (43-47)
 - A. Common sense - a healthy tree bears good fruit. An unhealthy tree bears dysfunctional fruit.
 - B. What we do comes from what we say and what we say comes from the state of our heart.
 - C. Are we boundaried, respectful, and self-controlled with emotional intelligence?
 - IV. CARTOON CARICATURE #4: wise and foolish builders (48-49)
 - A. A wise builder uses footing. An unwise builder uses a slab with no footings.
 - B. Build a life with Christ as the foundational footing . . .

Then and only then can we cause people to stop and stare because we are an alt movement called the realm of God that exhibits an unconditional love for all people, always. Even our enemies. Even our enemies. We forgive, are generous, kind, self-aware, respectful, boundaried, humble and open, bearing virtuous fruits because our foundation is built on Christ first. We are always second to what God is doing.