BE CURIOUS

The Golden Rule

"Just as you want others to do for you, do the same for them." (Luke 6:31)

"Here is a simple rule of thumb for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for *them*?" (Luke 6:31 MSG)

Be curious...don't judge

The cause

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven...Why do you look at the splinter in your brother's eye, but don't notice the beam of wood in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye,' when you yourself don't see the beam of wood in your eye? Hypocrite! First take the beam of wood out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the splinter in your brother's eye." (Luke 6:37,41-42)

• The secret of the splinter

Therefore, every one of you who judges is without excuse. For when you judge another, you condemn yourself, since you, the judge, do the same things. (Romans 2:1)

• Example: David 2 Samuel 11 & 12

The cure...grace and space

• Grace

"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 back to you." (Luke 6:38)

• Space...optical mixing...curiosity

He also told them a parable: "Can the blind guide the blind? Won't they both fall into a pit? A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher." (Luke 6:39-40)

But what about...?

• Loving insiders...there is no love without boundaries

But actually, I wrote you not to associate with anyone who claims to be a brother or sister and is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or verbally abusive, a drunkard or a swindler. Do not even eat with such a person. (1 Corinthians 5:11)

• Loving outsiders

I wrote to you in a letter not to associate with sexually immoral people. I did not mean the immoral people of this world or the greedy and swindlers or idolaters; otherwise you would have to leave the world...For what business is it of mine to judge outsiders?... (1 Corinthians 5:9-10,12)

So, it's always appropriate to love, never appropriate to condemn, sometimes appropriate to confront.

Our loving lifestyle

Grace mixing: The Golden Rule

Self-awareness: Be curious...when I change, people change

Reflection Question:

In what situations do I have a tendency to judge that might be more about me?

Scripture from the CBS unless noted.

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