



Today's Message

Date: June 21, 2020
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: ***Christ's Kingdom Message, Part 3—
Be Careful Who You Follow***

Text: Luke 6:37–42 (ESV)

³⁷ “Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ 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.”

³⁹ He also told them a parable: “Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? ⁴⁰ A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.

⁴¹ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴² How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.

Introduction: In Luke 6:27-36, Jesus taught a radical kind of love: those who follow him must learn to love their enemies! The text climaxed with a command to be merciful to others just like God the Father has been merciful to us. Mercy is the chief expression of radical love. This sermon text explains what true mercy looks like, how we can learn to be merciful, and the cost of failing to do so.

Today's take-home truth: Mercy is an essential character trait of those who follow Jesus.

I. Mercy must govern all our relationships. 37-38

- A. Those who are merciful:
 - 1. Stop judging others.
 - 2. Stop condemning others.
 - 3. Start forgiving others.
 - 4. Start giving to others.
- B. God rewards those who are merciful to others.

II. Only Jesus can teach us live with true mercy. 39-40

- A. Be careful who you choose to follow . . .
- B. because you will become like him and suffer his fate.
- C. Implication: Follow Jesus!

III. If we fail to be merciful, hypocrisy lurks within. 41-42

- A. Hypocrites look for sins in others but ignore their own sins.
- B. Hypocrites enlarge the sins of others but minimize their own sins.
- C. Hypocrites try to correct everyone but help no-one.