



Lesson Sixty Two: The Flea that Shook the King 1 Samuel 26:13-25

Read Proverbs 3:27. What are we not to withhold?

Under what conditions?

Can you think of examples of ways you can do this in your daily life?

Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-5. Paul is speaking directly against a specific issue of sexual sin going on in the church. The Corinthians were a prideful people and they were abusing the freedom they had in Christ to justify their sins. What does Paul tell them to do with this unrepentant person in the church?

According to verse 5, what is the goal of this action?

Read Matthew 7:1-6. What must we do before we go to a brother to address a sin issue in their life?

(Please note: this doesn't say we should never address those sin issues; it tells us we need to check our heart motive before we do it, but it doesn't say not to do it!)

For whom is it beneficial for us to do this? (Hint: not just yourself....)

Look carefully at verse 6. It seems that it doesn't belong there, but God's word is perfect and this verse is right where it was supposed to be. So, let's look at this closer. Dogs were considered unclean. In a big way.

So, Jesus is telling the people not to give holy things to the dogs. What are some holy things?

What about God's word, is that holy?

Jesus is giving a command here, on how to address an issue with your brother or sister, and then He tells them to be careful in whom they rebuke with God's holy word. There will be those who will not hear what you have to say at all, because they are not part of God, and, indeed, may use your efforts to correct their faulty thinking and open their spiritual eyes (which isn't your job; it's God's) to hurt you, either by words or deeds. Matthew 7:1-6 is a warning to us, to address sin with a right attitude, a desire to draw back in your brother, and to remember that those who are still of the world are under condemnation and, without God opening their eyes, they won't understand what you are trying to tell them. Know that there are enemies of the Gospel. Be careful.

Read Matthew 7:12-14. What does verse 12 tell us to do?

What warning comes immediately after verse 12?

What law or morality should we consider when pondering the directive in verse 12?

Is there more than one moral truth that we should be considering?

If there is only one moral truth, through Scripture, to determine what treatment we should desire for ourselves and what treatment we then should show to others, how does that go along with verses 13-14? (Hint: It's all about "right" vs "wrong" and the standard we follow for that morality.)

As you spend time with God today, really take a step back and consider how you look at God's Word. Do you treat it as truth, as the guidebook for your life, or do you see it at suggested behaviors? If you see the Bible as God's call on your life, it will be evident in the way you treat others, in how you elevate yourself, in your response to temptation and your response when you sin. Ask God to help you to understand His desire to draw you back in to Him, when you turn away and go after the things of your flesh. Ask Him to help you to see the plank in your own eye, and to make you detest that sin you once loved so dearly. Ask Him to continue that perfecting work that He began in you, and thank Him. Thank Him for His faithfulness, even when you are not faithful. For His truth, even when you discount it. Most of all, thank Him for His Son, for the example He left us and the hope He continues to give us, not just for eternity, but for this life, to live our lives to bring Him glory every day.