



Lesson 5

...But all the other sins, too.

Romans 1:24-32

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Read John 3:25-30. John the Baptist had quite a following and some of his followers were concerned that this “new guy” on the scene (Jesus) was taking the limelight away from John. What was John’s response in verse 27?

Who was he giving credit to for any fame he had?

What does John remind them of in verse 28?

Why does he remind them of that?

Is John upset that Jesus has come?

How do you know?

Look at verse 30. Was John expressing this thought with regret or sadness?

Read Luke 22:24-27. Who does Jesus tell His disputing disciples should be the greatest?

What example does He give to them to help them understand how this could be true?

Read Luke 6:43-45. Looking at the words of Jesus here, how can we tell if our hearts are treasuring up good or evil?

Why does this make sense? Can we also use this standard to “check the fruit” of others? (“Checking the fruit” doesn’t mean we are questioning the salvation of a fellow believer or attributing salvation to one who does not accept Christ. It is simply a “heart check” for yourself and for others to help you to realign yourself with Christ and to help you to notice “red flags” in other believers.)

Read Romans 1:29-31. As you read through this “list”, which characteristics on this list step on your toes?

How have your words or actions demonstrated that the overflow of your heart isn’t as good as you want others to think?

As you spend time with God today, ask Him to help you to be more aware of the overflow of your heart in your words and actions and ask Him to help you to understand what that shows about your heart. Ask Him to continue His sanctifying process in your heart, to root out those self-seeking desires and instead to fill your heart (the one stone heart that He replaced with flesh and put a new spirit in you too!) with what He wants you to reflect. Remember the words of John today as you pray, and ask Him to increase knowing that you must decrease.