

Glorious Alternative 16 - Specks and Planks, Dogs and Pigs

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. 2 For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. 3 “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? 4 How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

***6 “Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.
Matthew 7:1-6***

Followers of Jesus must develop a very high standard of self-assessment and discernment.

***20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.
Matthew 5:21***

Jesus was condemning the human mindset that makes us prone to demonize the people who disagree with us.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Galatians 5:22-24

“first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

Wounds from a friend can be trusted, Proverbs 27:6

Self-reflective people who are critically honest with themselves are a tremendous asset to the kingdom.

With the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

A Pharisee judges other’s motivations with skepticism and their own with mercy.

“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?

10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Psalm 51:10-12

“first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

God uses other believers in our lives to bring us into greater levels of accountability and holiness.

13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you. Psalm 51:13

Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. Galatians 6:1

“Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

Jesus’ followers are to surround themselves with truthfulness both inside and out.