

FINDING YOUR GOD INTENDED PURPOSE FOR LIFE

“A JUDGEMENTAL HEART OR A COMPASSIONATE HEART”

In our last lecture we looked at God’s calling of OT’s high priest. He was to offer sacrifices for the sins of the people, but because he was a man with human weaknesses, he had to offer sacrifices for his own sins first. Hebrews 5:2 says, “He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness.” That’s the kind of man he was to be. Not high and mighty, not proud of his position, not judgemental, but compassionate, seeking to help others who had failed, because he too knew what it was to fail himself.

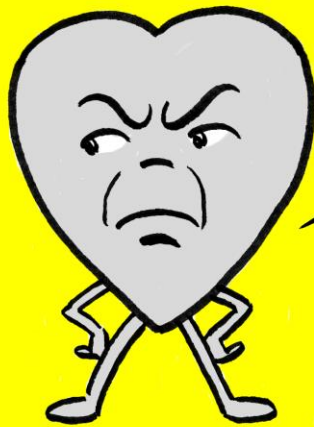
He was a fellow sinner helping fellow sinners. That’s why he was able to “deal gently with those who were ignorant (of God’s ways) and those going astray.” He was to have a compassionate heart in the calling God had given him. So whatever calling, whether big or small, God has given us, we too, need to be compassionate. It is easy for us to slip into a judgemental heart. We all find it easy to judge others, listen to what Jesus said, “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. 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? 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.” Matthew 7:1-5

I think Jesus means that our judgmental attitude is like the plank of wood compared to the speck of sawdust, which is the other person’s sin. In other words our judgmental attitude is the worst sin of the two. We will never help the other person if we retain our judgmental attitude, we need to humble ourselves, confess our judgmental attitude to God, be cleansed from it and ask God to fill us with his, compassion. Then we will have the right heart attitude to help the other person.

Like it says in Galatians 6:1, “Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted.” Or as it says in Ephesians 4:32, “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

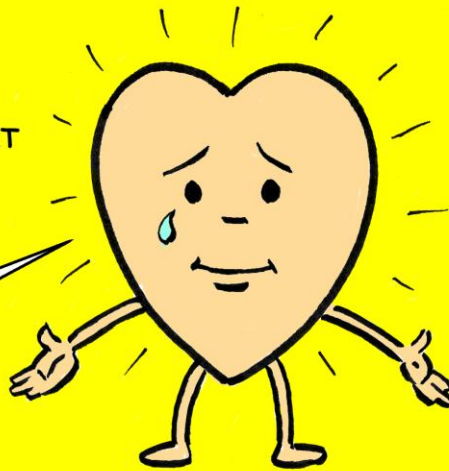
Speaking of Jesus Matthew 9:36, says, “When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.” John 3:17 says, “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” If Jesus didn’t come into the world to judge and condemn us, we shouldn’t judge and condemn people but do what Jesus did, with hearts of compassion, seek to save them.

People who persist in going their own way and rejecting Jesus and his salvation will one day have to face judgment. But as long as we are able, we should with humility and compassion, working together with God, seek to save them. Always remember, we are fellow sinners living in a world of sinners who are always judging and condemning each other, but let us be different!!! Let us go to them with non judgmental hearts full of compassion, let us like the Saviour see them as harassed and helpless without a shepherd to guide them. Let us introduce them to the Good Shepherd who died and rose again for them. Those who persist in rejecting our message and the Good shepherd will eventually perish, will face the judgment of God. The world is looking for reality, when they see it in us, many will turn to the lord.



HOW DISGUSTING.
I WOULD NEVER DO
THAT, I'M A GOOD
PERSON.

A JUDGMENTAL HEART



I TOO AM A SINNER,
BUT I'VE FOUND A
SAVIOUR WHO
FORGIVES.

A COMPASSIONATE HEART

A JUDGMENTAL HEART TURNS PEOPLE AWAY FROM GOD,
BUT
A COMPASSIONATE HEART WINS PEOPLE TO THE LORD.

WHICH HEART HAVE YOU?

FRANK HUTCHINSON