

SERMON NOTES

Confronting Conflict: The Beam Before the Speck

BIG IDEA: Before you can rightly deal with conflict, you have to let God deal with you.

1. Consider Your Heart [Matt 5:17–20; 23:25–28]

True righteousness isn't measured by what people see on the outside, but by what God sees on the inside.

- Matthew 5:17-21 serves as the interpretive _____ for the rest of the sermon on the mount.
- The righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees was purely _____; pride wearing _____ clothes.
- Hypocrite in the Greek means an _____, someone playing a part.

Test: would you handle this conflict the same way if no one else found out how you handled it? If the answer changes depending on who is watching, that's performance.

"Humility is to make a right estimate of oneself." - **Charles Spurgeon**

2. Confront Your Sin [Matt 7:1–5]

"Humility is the beginning of true intelligence." - **John Calvin**

Before you can rightly deal with someone else's sin, you have to deal honestly with your own.

- The exhortation is to confront our own sin _____ we begin pointing out sin in others.
- A mote is a _____; a beam is a _____.
- The sins we notice most clearly in others are often the ones that have taken _____ in us.
So, what do you do about a beam you cannot see in your own eye? You can't extract what you can't detect.

3. Consult the Word [Ps 139; Heb 4:12; Jas 1:23–25]

Ask God to show you what you can't see.

Conflicts with one another, are often symptomatic of conflict with God.

- God has already _____ you, He already knows you. Every thought, every word, every deed
- The Word doesn't just inform us; it _____, laying us open.
- The Word is like a _____, showing us what's actually there.

All conflict resolution should begin by a renewed submission to God by the internal act of submission to Him and His Word.



Matthew 7:1–5

Judge not, that ye be not judged. 2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. 3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? 4 Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? 5 Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

Matthew 5:17–20

17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. 18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. 19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.