

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Micah 3:5-12

Psalm 43

Send out your light & truth, that they may lead me. (v3)

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:1-12

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith & commitment, & to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Luke 16:19-31

¹Jesus said to the crowds & to his disciples, ²“The scribes & the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat; ³therefore, do whatever they teach you & follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. ⁴They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, & lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. ⁵They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad & their fringes long. ⁶They love to have the place of honor at banquets & the best seats in the synagogues, ⁷and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, & to have people call them rabbi. ⁸But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, & you are all students. ⁹And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. ¹⁰Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. ¹¹The greatest among you will be your servant. ¹²All who exalt themselves will be humbled, & all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

LISTENING TO . . .

God- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. What do *11:28-30*, *12:1-8*, & *15:1-20* add to the context? How does Jesus’ critique include (or not) something like “you can’t get there [righteousness] from here [right behavior]”? See *Romans 3:22-26*; *1 Corinthians 1:26-31*; *Ephesians 2:4-9*
2. *Vv8-10* are not intended literally, referring to honorific titles granted to “great men” (*cf. 2 Kings 2:12*). What do *John 5:16-47*, *8:12-59*, & *12:27-50* (also *Proverbs 4*) add to your understanding?

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. CS Lewis is credited as stating “Humility is not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less.” It’s often noted that the secret to social interactions with strangers & acquaintances (e.g. small talk) is to focus less on your thoughts & feelings of discomfort & more on making others comfortable. How do those fit with *vv8-9*? See also *Proverbs 3:34-35*; *James 4:5-10*; *1 Peter 5:5-9*
4. For *All Saints Sunday* spend time each day giving God thanks for at least 3 of his faithful believers (different ones each day) who “urged & encouraged” you in growing to the full stature of faithfulness. *Cf. Ephesians 4:13*; *1 Thessalonians 2:12*; *Hebrews 12:1-2*

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Consider *1 Corinthians 4:6* alongside *v4* above. It’s common for people to put boundaries in front of the boundaries to keep others from exceeding them, or to set standards that exceed the standards to ensure others meet the minimums. How do the **Small** & **Large Catechisms** help us know the right limits as well as warn us or encourage us when we’re drifting toward those limits? **SC** & **LC** available bookofconcord.org
6. Newcomers often find a group’s min/max limits on behavior confusing. A church they are often put-off, offended, or disgusted. How can you make the case that God’s expectations, though “not of this world,” are in everyone’s best interest? Use your **SC** to help. See *Romans 2:12-16*

Festival of All Saints

11.05.23

Series: Judgment

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Hey Y'all, Watch This!

God judges our prideful competition & showing-off toward one another

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: All who exalt themselves will be humbled,
& all who humble themselves will be exalted. (*v12*)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

They are before the throne of God, & the one who is seated on the throne
will shelter them. (*Revelation 7:15*)

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