



Daily Reflections

June 25, 2018

Scripture

Matthew 7: 1-5

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Stop judging, that you may not be judged.

For as you judge, so will you be judged,

and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you.

Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye,

but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own eye?

How can you say to your brother,

'Let me remove that splinter from your eye,'

while the wooden beam is in your eye?

You hypocrite, remove the wooden beam from your eye first;

then you will see clearly

to remove the splinter from your brother's eye."

Our Scripture Reflection

In today's Gospel text Jesus goes after those who are criticizing others in a hypocritical manner. Please note, He is not saying that judgments concerning unhealthy or bad behavior should never be imparted. Many an alcoholic has been assigned to an early grave because a relative or friend never spoke up for fear of being deemed "judgmental" towards the person who was addicted. With the Gospel as our witness and a pure heart and conscience we must always do our best for those who have gone astray. That's the essence of tough love, unconditional love.

Food for your Journey

Who am I? This or the other? Am I one person today and tomorrow another?
Am I both at once? A hypocrite before others, And before myself a
contemptibly weebegone weakling? Or is something within me still like a
beaten army, Fleeing in disorder from victory already achieved? Who am I?
They mock me, these lonely questions of mine. Whoever I am, Thou knowest,
O God, I am Thine!

--Excerpt from poem, "Who Am I?" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, July 18, 1944.

A Prayer from the Heart

Precious Lord, I am my brother and sister's keeper. I was created to love and
have compassion for the very people whom You love and for whom You show
compassion. Please keep my heart and my motives pure as I seek to build
up others rather than to do them harm. Amen