Sermon Notes for April 23, 2017

Putting Our Faith into Action


Introduction

“Are Evangelicals Born Again?” by Kent Hughes

What about the person who professes to know Christ, but their life never shows any change?

Have they really been born again or are they simply trusting in a profession of faith?


The proof of our faith is shown in how we live.

“Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.” James 2:17

I. Treat others like you would want to be treated. Verses 37-38

Jesus gives four short commands.

- Do not judge and you will not be judged.
- Do not condemn and you will not be condemned.
- Forgive and you will be forgiven.
- Give and it will be given to you.

It is the Golden Rule applied to each of these areas.

Don’t judge is one of the best known and most misused verses in the Bible.

What Jesus is speaking against here is judgmentalism – a negative and critical spirit.

Very often the person making judgments is doing the same thing. Romans 2:1-3, 21-24

What kind of judgments are we to make?

- Doctrinal judgments – between truth and error.
- Moral judgments – about behavior and choices.
- Spiritual judgments – “The spiritual man makes judgments about all things.” 1 Corinthians 2:15

Be gracious and generous.

II. Examine your own life first. Verses 39-45
Be careful who you follow.
Be humble and teachable.
When it comes to sin, take a good look at your own life first.
Remember, a tree is recognized by its fruit.
What do people see in you and me?

III. Build wisely. Verses 46-49
To disobey Jesus is to be like the foolish builder who didn’t care about his foundation.
He put his own life and the life of his family at risk.
Storms will come in life.
What will happen when they come?
The wise builder builds his life on the word of God.
If we build our life upon the word of God, we will have a firm foundation when the storms come.

Conclusion
Let’s put our faith into action by:

• Treating others like we would want to be treated.
• Examining and dealing with the sin in our own life.
• Building our life on the foundation of God’s word.