

# People of Peace

## Scripture Focus: Luke 6:37–42 (Judging Others)

<sup>37</sup> “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. <sup>38</sup> Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

<sup>39</sup> He also told them this parable: “Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into a pit?

<sup>40</sup> The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher.

<sup>41</sup> “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? <sup>42</sup> How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

## Summary

Being a person of peace means valuing reconciliation and humility over the desire to be right or superior. This value focuses on the “log in your own eye”, the need for thorough self-examination before pointing out the faults of others. It replaces a spirit of judgment with a spirit of forgiveness, aiming to create a community where grace is the norm for everyone.

## Inward

- We often focus on the "speck" in someone else’s eye to avoid the "log" in our own. What specific critical habit or judgment toward another person has the Holy Spirit been highlighting to you lately?
- Jesus links "not judging" with "forgiving" (v. 37). Is there a past hurt you are holding onto that is preventing you from being a person of peace in your current relationships?
- How can you practice "good measure" (v. 38) in your speech and attitudes this week, choosing to build up rather than tear down?

## Outward

- How does this value of being people of peace challenge our current church culture, and what would it look like for us to embody this more fully in our local neighbourhood?
- What is one way we can hold each other accountable or support one another in living out this value as a community this week?

## Prayer Focus

- Pray for a spirit of self-examination that precedes any desire to correct others.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to shine a light on the judgements we carry.
- Ask for clarity that we could see the “logs” in our own eyes before we look at the specks in others.