



### The Right Heart for Helping Others

<sup>1</sup> “Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. <sup>2</sup> For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged. <sup>3</sup> And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own? <sup>4</sup> How can you think of saying to your friend, ‘Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,’ when you can’t see past the log in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye.”

Matthew 7:1-5 NLT

### PRAISE AND CRITICISM

*Better to be criticized by a wise person than to be praised by a fool.*

Ecclesiastes 7:5 NLT

- Praise – often reveals what you **value most**.
- Criticism – often reveals your deepest **insecurities**.

*How can you think of saying, ‘Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,’ when you can’t see past the log in your own eye? Matthew 7:4 NLT*

### HELPING WITHOUT ENABLING

#### 1) OFFER WHAT THEY **NEED** NOT WHAT THEY **WANT**.

<sup>6</sup> But Peter said, “I don’t have any silver or gold for you. But I’ll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Nazarene, get up and walk!”

<sup>7</sup> Then Peter took the lame man by the right hand and helped him up. And as he did, the man’s feet and ankles were instantly healed and strengthened.

Acts 3:6-7 NLT

- Identify the real **need**.
- Pay attention to **actions**, not **words**.

#### 2) SET HEALTHY **BOUNDARIES**.

<sup>35</sup> Before daybreak the next morning, Jesus got up and went out to an isolated place to pray. <sup>36</sup> Later Simon and the others went out to find him

<sup>37</sup> When they found him, they said, “Everyone is looking for you.”

Mark 1:35-37 NLT

- **Time boundaries**
- **Resource boundaries**

#### 3) ALLOW THEM TO FACE THEIR **CONSEQUENCES**.

<sup>7</sup> Don’t be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. <sup>8</sup> Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. **Galatians 6:7-8**

NLT

- Rescuing isn’t always **helping**.
- Jesus is the savior, not **you**.

#### WE CAN’T PLEASE ALL PEOPLE, BUT WE CAN PLEASE GOD!

*For we speak as messengers who have been approved by God to be entrusted with the Good News. Our purpose is to please God, not people...*

1 Thessalonians 2:4 NLT

#### Next Steps for me today...

- Let God work in my heart first.
- Ask God to reveal what I need to confess.
- Trust God!