

# BACK TO BASICS

## The Speck and the Plank

Luke 6:39-42

**Context: Don't judge, don't condemn** (Luke 6:37)

"Condemn" simply clarifies the kind of judging Jesus prohibits.

**Blind Guides** (Luke 6:39-40)

Jesus' point: Be careful who you follow.

**Specks & Planks** (Luke 6:41-42)

Specks & planks are metaphors for our sin.

Hypocrite: an actor, always a negative connotation.

"Confess your sins to each other & pray for each other..."  
(James 5:16)

1. How have you been spending time with God this week?
2. Who are you sharing your faith with? How is it going?
3. How have you used your gifts for God this week?
4. Are your heart attitudes and relationships honoring God?
5. Have you given in to sexual sin in any way?
6. Is your financial life above reproach?
7. Are you serving your family, friends, others sacrificially?
8. Have you made any decisions that dishonor Christ?
9. Ask me, "\_\_\_\_\_?"
10. Are you being completely honest?

**The Art of Speck-Removing**

In Humility (Galatians 6:1-3)

With Patience (1 Thessalonians 5:14; 2 Timothy 4:2)

Based on Scripture (2 Timothy 4:2; 2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Always in Love and Mercy (Jude 22-23; James 5:19-20)

"Nothing can be more cruel than the tenderness that consigns another to his sin. Nothing can be more compassionate than the severe rebuke that calls a brother back from the path of sin."

(Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*)

Jesus also carried a plank.

## LifeGroup Questions - Doing Life Together

Week of June 3-9, 2018

# BACK TO BASICS

## The Speck and the Plank – Luke 6:39-42

Sermons can be viewed online at [creeksideeg.com/sermon](http://creeksideeg.com/sermon)

Questions are based on the NIV translation of the Bible

### PRAYER

Ask God to bless your upcoming LifeGroup discussion.

**Announcement: Creekside University** – *If you're looking for a way to grow as a Christ-follower this summer while LifeGroups are on break, Creekside University is a great next step! Learn what Christians believe and why it matters for daily life through the **Doctrine** course taught by a world-class Bible scholar, learn new tools through our **Parenting with Love & Logic** course, be equipped to reach out with the gospel through **Missional Living**, or deepen your relationship with Jesus through the **Heart Habits** course. Find out more at: [creeksideeg.com/university](http://creeksideeg.com/university)*

### MY STORY

1. Describe a time when someone corrected or judged you. How did you receive it?

### DIGGING DEEPER

2. What from Sunday's message gave you new insight into how to deal with sin in your own life and in the lives of others?
3. How do you feel when you receive constructive criticism, even if you've asked for it?
4. **Read Luke 6:37**. According to this verse, what is the context for the parable of the speck and the plank that Jesus tells here?
5. **Read Luke 6:39-42** and answer the following questions:
  - What question is asked in verse 39 and then answered in the form of a question? What is the assumed answer of each question?

- What question is asked in verse 41? What point do you think Jesus was making by asking this question?
- How does verse 42 characterize a hypocrite? How do we avoid becoming a hypocrite?

6. What guidance do these verses give for calling out sin in someone else's life?

**Proverbs 27:6**

**1Thessalonians 5:14**

**Galatians 6:1-3**

**2 Timothy 4:2**

**James 5:19-20**

### DIGGING EVEN DEEPER

7. **Read Matthew 23:13-27**. What are some of the reasons why Jesus calls the Jewish religious leaders hypocrites? In your view, how is it that the religious leaders got things so wrong in their lives? What can we learn from this passage and how can we avoid similar pitfalls?

### TAKING IT HOME

8. Check the statement that best describes where you are regarding helping fellow believers overcome sin:
  - I don't confront people about their sin because I have enough sin of my own to work on.
  - I don't confront people about their sin because I don't want them to see me as judgmental.
  - Sometimes I am too quick to judge and try to correct others.
  - I see myself and other believers as sinners saved by grace so I try to deal with my sin before pointing out the sin of others.
9. What changes do you need to make in your attitude or actions toward others? What is your plan to implement them?

### PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for the needs of your group and ask God to help you show His love to others by being a good example of humility and mercy.