

## Testing the Profession Luke 6:46-49

ETS: Jesus asked why there was a disconnection between what they said and what they did.

ESS: What we do says more about what we believe than what we say.

OSS: I want people to bear fruit for Christ not just talk about Him.

PQ: Are you putting Jesus' words into practice?

UW: Evidence

### ME

Have you ever FAILED at something?

- Failed a **test** at school?
- Failed a **driver's** exam?
- Failed onto a **sports** team?
- Failed at a **marriage** or relationship?
- Failed to do something you were supposed to do—  
like take out the **garbage**?

What caused you to fail?

- Don't have the **skill** set
- **Not interested**....The subject did not interest you
- **Too tired**...you just don't have the energy to concentrate

- **Too distracted**...something more important got your attention\
- **Overwhelmed**...you just had too much on your mind and didn't care to deal with the situation

### WHY do you FAIL from something?

- **Choice**
  - You choose to **ignore** the situation
  - You choose to **run** from the situation
- **Rebellion**
  - Because you're **ANGRY**
  - Because you don't **FEEL** like doing it
- **Peer Pressure**
  - Because everyone else is doing the **OPPOSITE** of what you know you should do

## GOD

Turn to **Luke 6**

Two people who do the **SAME** thing, but **ONE FAILS** and the **CONSEQUENCES** are **HUGE**

### **Audience:**

- **Audience:** Mixed Audience
  - **Primarily His followers**
    - **The 12** had just been **officially chosen &**
    - A **“large crowd of *His disciples*”**

- **Religious People** who were scoping Him out
  - “a great number of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon”

**Motive** of the audience

- **Luke 6:18–19 (HCSB)** “They came to (1) hear Him and (2) to be healed of their diseases

**Primary Target** of the Message: *People who called Jesus the “Lord”*

HERE IS THE QUESTION:

**Luke 6:46** “Why do you call me “Lord, Lord and don’t do the things I say?”

- “Why do you FAIL to do what I say to do?”

Who is the “YOU”

- Jesus’ **disciples (the 12)**
- Those who are identified as my disciples—who say I am the “*Lord*” “

What does the word: “LORD” mean?

- **Def:** Master worthy of obedience
- **Def:** Owner

AMPLIFIED QUESTION:

**Luke 6:46** “Why do you (people who are identified or identify as my followers) call me “Owner, a Master worthy of obedience and don’t do the things I say?””

Same question for US!

WHY do WE call Jesus “Lord” and DON’T do the things He says?

- **DISCONNECT** between **CALLING** Jesus “**LORD**” and actually *allowing* Jesus to be “**LORD**” of our lives!

WHAT did Jesus SAY to DO?

Review of WHAT Jesus tells us to do in this sermon  
**Luke 6:27–45 (HCSB)**

**Luke 6:27-28** “**But I SAY to you who listen:** (Here’s what WE are to DO)

- Love your enemies,
- Do what is good to those who hate you,
- Bless those who curse you,
- pray for those who mistreat you.”

WHO are your enemies?

WHO are you at odds with right now?

- Are you willing to “Self-sacrifice” your pride for them? (“Love”)

What else does Jesus call us to DO?

- <sup>29</sup> If anyone hits you on the cheek, **offer** the other also. And if anyone takes away your coat, don't hold back your shirt either.
- <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who asks you, and from one who takes your things, don't ask for them back.
- <sup>31</sup> Just as you want others to do for you, do the same for them.
- <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, do what is good, and lend, expecting nothing in return...
- <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father also is **merciful**.

We don't want to DO these things!

We want....

- TO **hit** back
- **Revenge**
- **Curse** back those who Curse us
- **Hate** back those who hate us

This is TOUGH stuff!!!

To DO these things REQUIRES....**Self-Sacrificing Love**

Jesus DOES NOT command US to do anything HE did not do!

- Jesus displayed all these things **ON THE CROSS!**
  - **Salvation.....**

**Luke 6:46** “Why do you call me “Lord, Lord and don’t do the things I say?””

- Why do YOU refuse to **RECONCILE** with your Enemy?
  - YET, you want to call ME **“LORD”**?
- Why do YOU refuse to **PRAY** for your Enemy?
  - YET, you want to call ME **“LORD”**?
- Why do YOU refuse to **SHOW KINDNESS** to your Enemy?
  - YET, you want to call ME **“LORD”**?
- Why do YOU refuse to Turn the **OTHER CHEEK** and walk away?
  - YET, you want to call ME **“LORD”**?
- Why do YOU refuse to **DO GOOD** for those who persecute you?
  - YET, you want to call ME **“LORD”**?

WHY do we REFUSE to DO what Jesus Says?

- **PRIDE**

WE want to LOOK **connected** to Jesus, but we DON'T want to take it TOO FAR!

- We want to be **identified** as Jesus' disciples by **outsiders**, but DON'T put our **identity to the test!**

**DANGER:** You can **LOOK connected** but **FAIL** to do what He says!!

- Attending worship makes us **LOOK connected**, but when we **LEAVE** this room we **FAIL** to do what He says

Do you know how people *outside* the church identify people IN the church that FAIL to do what Jesus says?

## **HYPOCRITES**

People often complain the church is full of **hypocrites**...and it is!

- **WE** are all hypocrites as some point!
  - WHY?
    - Because WE fail to do WHAT Jesus says to do while ACTING as if Jesus is "LORD"

The was a political leader who ...

- He made free use of **Christian vocabulary**.
- He talked about the **blessing** of the **Almighty** and the **Christian confessions** which would become the pillars of the new government.

- He handed out **pious stories** to the **press**, especially to the **church papers**.
- He showed his **tattered Bible** and **declared** that he drew the **strength** for his great work from it as **scores of pious people welcomed him** as a **man sent from God**.
  - Indeed, **Adolf Hitler** was a master of outward religiosity—with no inward reality!

**Luke 6:47 (HCSB)** “I will show you what someone is like who comes to Me, hears My words, and acts on them:

HOW do we keep from FAILING the test?

**SEEK AFTER JESUS**

The person “Comes to Me”

- The verb “comes” is in the **middle voice** literally it means “*comes to Christ for yourself.*”
  - We are NOT talking about someone who has NO INTEREST in Jesus.
    - We are talking about someone who is “**SEEKING**” after Jesus.

If you are **depending upon someone else’s decision** for Christ rather than your own, you are **DISCONNECTED** from Christ!

- If you here because your mother and dad brought you up in church but not because you have made a *personal* connection to Christ, you are disconnected!
  - If there has not been that time in your life when you personally came to Christ then you are disconnected.
    - If you are here because you are expected to and you are not here out of your love for Christ and because you truly desire to serve Him, you are disconnected!

BUT there is more than the INITIAL RESPONSE to Christ required to be CONNECTED to Christ!

SEEKING after Jesus is the first step to being CONNECTED to Jesus-but it is **NOT** the *only* step.

- You can be seeking to know about Jesus, but not be CONNECTED to Him.
  - **Attending Church, listening to sermons, etc. DOES NOT CONNECT** you to Jesus.

That phrase: “**I will show you what someone is like *who comes to Me***” is also in the **present tense** meaning it is a **continual** process: **the connected person is continuously coming to Christ.**

- SEEKING after Jesus is not just for salvation, but it is **continually relying on and trusting in Christ.**

- Unlike the **disconnected religious person** who **relies upon him/herself**, the connected person relies constantly upon Christ.

**Luke 6:47 (HCSB) “I will show you what someone is like who comes to Me, hears My words...”**

HOW do we keep from FAILING the test?

**LISTEN to Jesus**

The word translated “**hear**” is a **present active participle**.

- Again, the **CONNECTED PERSON** is **constantly listening** to Christ.
  - They are attune to what God is doing in their life—that is why we say they are connected.

HOW do you KNOW if you are only HEARING Jesus but NOT LISTENING?

- First, you **CAN’T RECALL** what you just heard!
  - If you can’t recall what God is teaching you in His Word during your devotional time, worship, etc. THEN you aren’t listening!

QUESTION: Is there a difference between “**Hearing**” and “**Listening**”?

- **Men**, how many times have your wife asked you “Did you hear what I said?”
  - She knew that you **“HEARD”** what you said. The **PROBLEM** is that you didn’t **“LISTEN”** to what she said!
- How can she tell that you heard what she said, but didn’t listen to what she said?
  - *You didn’t DO what she asked you to do!*
  - You can’t tell her what she was talking about when she asked that dreaded question: What was I telling you about?

If you can’t remember WHAT Jesus says about something you aren’t going to DO what He tells you!

HOW do we keep from FAILING the test?

**OBEY Jesus**

**Luke 6:47 (HCSB)** “I will show you what someone is like who comes to Me, hears My words, **and acts on them:**

- Again the word **“acts”** is a present active participle.
  - A **connected person** is continually, in the present, doing what God’s will is for them.

**ACTION is REQUIRED!**

1. **Comes** to Jesus (action)

2. **Hears** what Jesus has to say (action)
3. **Acts** on what Jesus says (action)

**Luke 6:47 (HCSB)** “I will show you what someone is like who comes to Me, hears My words, **and acts on them:**

Jesus gives us an **illustration** of two men.

- **Both** men are **building** the same thing: a **house**
- **Both** men live in the **same world**-*a world subject to storms*
- **Both** men have the **same goal**: *to provide a place of shelter and a home*
- **Both** men take **action**-*they are building their houses*

ONE man is DOING what He knows he needs to do

- The other man is ACTING like he is doing the right thing, but is not!

One man is being a BUILDER

- The other man wants to LOOK LIKE he is a builder, but he is not!

**Luke 6:48** He (The connected person) **is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock.”**

## HOW do we keep from FAILING the test?

### **DIGS DEEP**

Dig Deep ...

- Into your HEART
- Into your MIND

CONFRONT...

- Your SINFUL desires
- Your PAST
- Your PRESENT
- Your FUTURE

IDENTITY

- CLAIM who you are in Christ!
  - KNOW *whose* you are
  - KNOW *who* you are in Christ

How do you DIG DEEP?

- HEAR God's Word
- DO God's Word
- GIVE control to CHRIST

How to DO what Jesus Says...

- Requires **Patience**
- Requires **Time**
- Requires **Consistency**

HOW do we keep from FAILING the test?

**BUILD on GOD'S TRUTH**

Building the foundation is not the sexy part of building a house!

PIPE ORGAN...APPARENTLY NO  
PROGRESS....LOOKED LIKE WE WEREN'T  
WORKING

building the FOUNDATION is SLOW and takes time!

- He has to “**Dig deep**” – and this is without earth moving equipment!
  - He has to be patient!
    - He didn't know how far down he had to dig to hit Rock!

Why did he take the time, expend the energy to dig to the rock?

- Knew the rock was a sure anchor!

Growing in your CONNECTION to Jesus is not AUTOMATIC-if it were, Jesus would not be asking this question of His followers!

CONTRAST = The one who “SAYS” but does NOT  
“DO”

**Luke 6:49:** “***But*** the one who hears and does not act (e.g., he “Heard” but he didn’t “Listen”) is like a man who built a house on the ground *without a foundation*.

- Does NOT dig deep
  - Does not **examine** his/her heart
  - Does not **dig** into God’s Word
  - Does not **confront** sin in his/her life
  - Does not **apply** God’s truth to his/her life

Why would the man **NOT** build his house on a **foundation**?

- Didn’t think a **foundation** was that **important**
- In a **hurry** to get the house up-not **patient**
- Didn’t **LISTEN** to **advice**
- Didn’t want to **WORK** at **building** a **foundation**

How can you tell the difference between a house built on the foundation and a house built on the ground from a distance? **You really can’t.**

- You can put two houses next to each other, which look identical, yet one is anchored to a solid foundation and the other is sitting on the ground.

**PROBLEM:** It can be difficult to tell the difference!

- Two Groups
  - The 12

- Those identified as “Jesus disciples”
  - Later, many of Jesus disciples no longer walked with Him
  - Later, even Judas proved not to KNOW Jesus!

HOW can you TELL if Jesus REALLY is your LORD?

The **storms** of life—particularly the **major storms**—will always **reveal** whether Jesus is “**Lord**” or not of your life!

- Now that house built on the sand may be able to **endure** some **small** storms.
  - A little wind and little rain won’t hurt it much—it will continue to stand.
    - But when the big storms hit that is a different story.

**Luke 6:48b** When the flood came, the river crashed against that house and couldn’t shake it, because it was well built.

Look at Jesus’ description of the storm:

- “**Flooding**” You have flooding when you are **overwhelmed** by rain.
  - When the ground cannot soak up any more moisture; when the local rivers cannot carry off the water fast enough.

- “*river crashed*” against the house.
  - Water puts a lot of **pressure** on the **structure**.
    - It **pushes** with an **incredible force**.
    - It **strains** the **anchors** of the structure.

Do you know someone whom you say “There is a person connected to God”?

- If so, WHY do you say that person is “Connected to God”?
  1. Because **they have withstood the storms of life** and have not **waivered!**
    - They **still believe**, they **still hope** in Christ, **they still** worship; and **they are still faithful**.

**Twitter:** Lady who is dying commented “Only a short time until I am well”

You say Jesus is “**LORD**” of someone’s life because they have withstood the storms of life and have **not waivered!**

- They didn’t waiver b/c *before the storms* hit, they
  - **Came** to Jesus,
  - **Heard** what Jesus had to say, and
  - **Acted** on Jesus’ words!
- They didn’t waiver b/c *before the storms* hit, they followed Jesus with...
  - **Patience**

- **Consistently**
- **Attentively**

A person who “Doesn’t do the things Jesus says” stops following Jesus WHEN the storms hit:

- **Luke 6:49b** “... The river crashed against it (the house that was not built on the foundation) and *immediately* it collapsed. And the destruction of that house was great!”

How long does the disconnected person stand when the storms of life hit?

- Not long at all. Jesus said “**Immediately**” they collapse.

## WE

Two Groups of People who identify as Jesus’ disciples:

- **Group 1:** Jesus is the Lord, Master and Owner of their lives
- **Group 2:** Jesus is NOT the Lord, Master.

Which group are you in?

- WHAT are the storms in life revealing to you?
  - **STORM: Family** problems
    - How are you dealing with conflict in your family?

- **STORM: Co-worker/employer issues**
  - How are you dealing with conflict in at your job?
- **STROM: Physical Illness**
  - How are you dealing with physical distress?
- **STORM: Financial distress**
  - How are you dealing with financial hardship?
- **STORM: Uncertainty**
  - How are you dealing with uncertainty?

HERE IS THE QUESTION:

**Luke 6:46** “Why do you call me “Lord, Lord and don’t do the things I say?””

**WE**

Jesus’ question to the religious people was “**Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord’ and do not do what I say?**” Jesus question to you this morning is the same.

What does the evidence prove?

- Does it prove you are connected or disconnected to Christ?
- Remember, it doesn’t matter what you say, it is what you do!

**PQ: Are you passing the test?**

