

Attitude

- ❖ a settled way of thinking or feeling about someone or something, typically one that is reflected in a person's behavior. (Oxford Languages Dictionary)
- ❖ 1. manner, disposition, feeling, position, etc., with regard to a person or thing; tendency or orientation, especially of the mind: 2. position or posture of the body appropriate to or expressive of an action, emotion, etc. (dictionary.com)

- ❖ What have you allowed to settle your thinking concerning others?
 - Jealousy – James 3:16; James 4:2-3; Pro. 14:30
 - Unforgiveness – Mark 11:25; Eph. 4:25-27; Mat. 18:21-35; Mat. 7:4-6
 - The mess of others – Rom. 16:17-18; Mat. 18; Mat. 23:15; Psa. 101:5; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; Pro. 6:19
 - Lack of love – 1 John 4:18
 - Selfishness – 1 Cor. 12; Phil 2
 - The way things were – Ezra 3
 - Lack of submission to God –
 - In ungodly – Exo. 7:12-13; 22
 - Sadly enough, in those who profess to know God – Psa. 95:8-11;

Your Attitude Matters

- ❖ To kings – Neh. 2
- ❖ To the King of Kings – Psa. 100
- ❖ We must understand how important our attitudes are to God
 - James. 1:12
 - 1 Thes. 5:18
 -

Your Attitude is the response we see to the state of your heart and mind

Mat. 15:8

Phil. 2:5

Don't let your attitude cause you to lose your witness

Phil. 1:27

Our Attitude Towards Worship & Fellowship

- ❖ We all must learn to treasure our fellowship
 - It is enabled by God – 1 John 1:7; 1 Cor. 1:9;
 - It is heard and recognized by God – Mat. 18:20
 - Needs are met in fellowship – Acts 2:42
 - It must be guarded – 2 Cor. 6:14; 1 Cor. 5:2; 2 Thes. 3:14-15

- ❖ A lack of fellowship brings about a sense of loneliness
 - Listen to the quote from Psychology Today:
“Whether a person lives in isolation or not, feeling a lack of social connectedness can be painful.”
“Loneliness is as tied to the quality of one's relationships as it is to the number of connections one has. And it doesn't only stem from heartache or isolation. A lack of authenticity in relationships can result in feelings of loneliness.”

- ❖ Presence alone doesn't produce true fellowship – 1 John 1:3-6, Eph. 2:14-22
 - There must be agreement – Amos 3:3
 - The impotent man was present yet still lonely – John 5:7
 - David felt all alone in hiding in the cave – Psa. 142:1-4 (MSG)
 - You may have fair-weather folk around you – Psa. 31:11; 2 Tim. 4:16 (KJV, MSG)

- ❖ The attitude you bring to fellowship matters
 - Doubt and unbelief – Psa. 4:6-8,
 - Discord – Pro. 6:18-19
 - Faith and encouragement – 1 Thes. 5:11, Heb. 10:25, Ecc. 4:9-12

Sermon Highlights

- ❖ Psalm 120-134 – Psalms of degrees or Pilgrim psalms
 - Psalms or songs for going up to Jerusalem for 3 appointed feasts (Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles)
 - Several of these are in 1st person singular
 - We need to make sure our attitude and focus is right

- ❖ Psalm 120: In distress
 - Vs. 1: in trouble, but praying
 - Vs. 2-4: liars and slanderers are loose on him
 - Vs. 5: the tribes around him are terrible but he is only sojourning (temporary)
 - Meshech: savage and uncivilized
 - Kedar: 2nd son of Ismael, cruel and merciless
 - Vs. 6-7: he is peaceful and yet surrounded by those that hate peace

- ❖ Psalm 121: Focus on what is important and Who is important in the midst of the challenges
 - The psalmist lifts up his eyes towards the hills of Jerusalem as he approaches on his pilgrimage
 - Vs. 2: our help comes from the Lord
 - His help
 - Vs. 3: Provides strength, safety and stability – Phil. 4:1; Rom. 15:2; Col. 4:12
 - Vs. 4: Watches over us and doesn't sleep – 1 Kings 18:27
 - Vs. 5: Keeps us
 - Vs. 6: Covers us – Psa. 91
 - Vs. 7: Preserves us from evil – John 17:15
 - Vs. 8: Preserves our going and coming – Psa. 126:6

- ❖ Psalm 122: 1-2 – The Attitude toward fellowship and worship
 - Expectation – I was glad
 - Invitation – when they said unto me
 - Celebration – Let us go into the House of the Lord

The Blessing of Emptying

What Does It Mean to Be a Disciple?

- ❖ A disciple is teachable – Acts 22:3-8;
- ❖ A disciple is called to follow – Mat. 4:19; 8:22; 9:9; 16:24; 19:21
- ❖ A disciple not only follows physically but spiritually – 1 Cor. 11:1; Acts 22:3-8
 - Requires following the mission – Mark 10:45; John 6:38
 - Following the attitude and disposition of Christ – Phil. 2:5-11

The Call to Growth

- ❖ Growth requires a willingness to move, settle and receive – Luke 9:14
- ❖ 2 of many categories for growth:
 - Relational
 - Staying Connected – John 15:1-11
 - Meditation – Jos. 1:8; Psa. 1:1-3; Psa. 63:6; Psa. 77:2; Psa. 119:15, 48
 - Study – 1 Thes. 4:11; 2 Tim. 2:15; Pro. 1:1-5
 - Prayer – Luke 11:5-13, 18:1-8; Mat. 6:9-13
 - Worship – Rev. 4:11; John 4:23-24
 - Developmental
 - Character
 - John 13:35; Gal. 5:22-23
 - Are we truly Christ-like?
 - Your character is your responsibility – 2 Tim. 2:20-21
 - Obedience – Mat. 16:24-26

The Process of Emptying

- ❖ Identification and eradication of your “dross” – Pro. 25:4

My:	Walk in His:
Pride –	Power
Pity -	Promise
Plan	Purpose
Thoughts	Will
Settled ways & mind	Greater Works
Attitude	Be filled with His gratitude

Sermon Highlights

- ❖ Sermon on the mount
- ❖ Vs. 1:
 - Seeing the multitudes
 - Jesus went up into a mountain
 - When He was set (seated), His disciples came to Him
- ❖ Vs. 2: He taught them – Mat. 7:29 (with authority)
 - Starts out blessings, not as you and I perceive them, but as God Himself reveals them...
- ❖ Blessed: Makarios: happy, possessing the favor of God, indicative of the state of the believer in Christ Jesus...
- ❖ Vs. 3: Spiritual position – Poor in spirit
 - Not poor (ptochus or tohaus) but poor in spirit – Psa. 51:17; Psa. 40:17
 - Reduced to begging, destitute of wealth or influence
 - Humbled by God's grace and grace because we are humble – 1 Cor. 15:10; 1 Pet. 5:5-6; James 4:6; 2 Cor. 12:9
- ❖ Vs. 4: They that mourn (pentheo: deep mourning over the dead, in this case you) – Eph. 2:1
- ❖ Vs. 5: The meek (praus: mild, gentleness of spirit, humble) – 1 Tim. 6:6-11, Phil. 2:7; 1 Pet. 5:6
- ❖ Vs. 6: When you are empty, you will hunger and thirst after righteousness – and you shall be filled

Our Conduct and The Conductor

The Role of the Conductor

- ❖ Directs and shapes the performance
- ❖ Knows the sound desired and what each performer has within them to produce it
- ❖ Keeps the performers together
- ❖ Interprets and expresses the music being played

I am God's Vessel or Instrument

- ❖ Saved and called out to be used by God – 1 Pet. 2:9
- ❖ Used to impact and affect others to God's glory – John 2:7-8

I am Responsible for my Conduct

- ❖ Your speech? – Tit. 2:1-14
 - What is it full of and how is it seasoned? Col. 4:6; Mat. 5:13
- ❖ Your temperament? Pr. 25:28; James 1:19-27
- ❖ Your conductivity? Pro. 16:32
 - Can you follow orders and guidance?
 - Are you Spirit led? John 16:13; Ga. 5:16; Pro. 3:5-6
- ❖ Your tone?
 - Am I in tune with the Body? Phil. 1:27; Phil. 2:12-15
 - Do I compliment the Body or seek to stand out in the Body? Col. 3:15 (MSG)
- ❖ Your ear?
 - Can you discern when you are out of tune? Pro. 4:23
 - Can you perceive the sound that the conductor is trying to produce?
 - Can you be corrected? Pro. 15:31; Acts 7:51
- ❖ Your demeanor?
 - Draped in grace and obedience – 1 Pet. 1:13-16
- ❖ My Responses – Mat. 5:1-13

Questions from the Conductor?

- ❖ Do you know your part? Eph. 2:10;
- ❖ Did you practice? Heb. 5:14; Phil. 4:9 (ESV)
- ❖ Have you prepared? 2 Tim. 2:20-21
- ❖ What is your range? Mat. 25:15
- ❖ Can you be faithful to follow?
- ❖ Can you be trusted to lead? 1 Cor 11:1
- ❖ Can you follow the commands of the Conductor?
 - Can you play softer or a quiet part? Ecc. 3:7
 - Can you come forth? Ecc. 3:7