Sermon Date: May 1, 2016 Pastor: Noah Largent

## Sierra's Weekly Message Action Plan



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So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. Matthew 7:12

First off a reminder - not about my message, but to make time to listen to Dan's message from last week on Jesus' teaching, "Love your Enemies". Click the link to listen to it online.

God made you to a rich voice in the lives of others! Using it well is a challenge. Here are a few reminders from Jesus' teaching in Matthew 7:1-7.

1. Reread the story I mentioned from Luke 18:9-14 about self-righteousness. One of the keys to spiritual health is keeping fresh in our minds our need for

forgiveness. If you need to, take a minute and confess your need and appreciation again to God for the salvation He offers to you.

**2.** No one wants to be a hypocrite. In verse five Jesus says, "first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

The key to helping others starts with taking stock of your own issues! Take a minute to think back over the last few weeks, ask God to help you see more clearly the "plank(s)" in your own eye. Confess it to Him. Commit to confessing it someone else and ask them to hold you accountable to continue to surrender it to God.

3. I mentioned that I love to argue, so it's not hard for me to bring up Jesus in conversation with others, but it doesn't mean that I do it at approbate times or in a way that is beneficial for others. How about you? Are you like me that you need more discretion in when and how to share God's insights for living and the message of salvation? Or perhaps the opposite is true for you. Many people don't like confrontation and avoid engaging in challenging but necessary conversation about God. Whichever is true for you, this a good reminder that each day we need God's wisdom to live well for Him. A simple but profound way help start each day off well is to pray each morning right when you wake up. Starting this week make that your daily commitment! It might sound something like this, "God, thank you for waking me up this morning! I want to give you my very best today! Help me to become more aware of your presence and follow your direction for me as I work my way through the day. Help me to be quick to thank you where I see you at work and quick to confess where I fall short. Amen!"

Have great week!

It is a privilege to work with and for you!

Noah

PS. If you were in the 9 am service and remember my Facebook story, mystery solved!!! I know where my 4 year old son got the idea about me looking at Facebook and not working on my sermon slides (which I was not!). I'm sitting in my truck with him and my 6 year old daughter getting ready to drive home after church (waiting for Dan, who not surprisingly was blocking me - I'm always waiting on Dan!) so I asked my son where he learned about Facebook and, "why he thought daddy was looking at it?". My daughter answered for him... "from watching the movie 'Hotel Transylvania 2'! Duh Dad!" Oh yeah, a good scene in a good kids movie. Mystery solved.