## **SERMON NOTES**

March 18 & 19, 2023

## Am I the Problem? Pearl Pushers

Matthew 7:6

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	Romans 14:13 a
	Proverbs 27:14
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## Life Steps

Am I the Problem? Pearl Pushers | March 18 & 19, 2023

Monday Matthew 7:6

**Reflect:** What are examples of the "sacred" and the "pearls" to which Jesus is referring? Why might anyone offered something sacred or valuable respond negatively?

**Prayer:** Holy and perfect God, I am the problem, change me.

Tuesday Matthew 7:6

**Reflect:** We are "pearl pushers" when we try to correct or instruct others who are not receptive to our input. Why is it hard to refrain from judging, criticizing, and, or giving advice to others? How will you strive this week to become less of a "pearl pusher?"

Prayer: Holy and perfect God, I am the problem, change me.

Wednesday Romans 14:13

**Reflect:** What does Paul say is the consequence of our judging or criticizing others? Why would judging or criticizing have this impact?

**Prayer:** Holy and perfect God, I am the problem, change me.

Thursday James 1:19, 26

**Reflect:** How quick are you to speak, or give advice, and why is this so? How can you be quicker to listen and slower to speak?

**Prayer:** Holy and perfect God, I am the problem, change me.

Friday Proverbs 27:14

**Reflect:** What is the importance of timing when sharing our feedback or input to others? What tends to be your first response when someone starts to give you unsolicited advice? **Prayer:** Holy and perfect God, I am the problem, change me.

Saturday Ephesians 6:4

**Reflect:** What are the motivations that might influence a parent to be a "pearl pusher" toward her/his child? Where do you need to refrain from speaking without invitation into the lives of people in your family tree?

**Prayer:** Holy and perfect God, I am the problem, change me.

Sunday Matthew 7:1-6

**Reflect:** When it comes to you being the problem, judging others, ignoring your own plank, or being a "pearl pusher," where do you need to grow the most? How will you measure any progress made?

**Prayer:** Holy and perfect God, I am the problem, change me and help me be more like Jesus.

