

SERMON NOTES

March 4 & 5, 2023

Am I the Problem? The Plank

Matthew 7:3-5

1. The Plank: _____ my problem is me.

Matthew 7:3-5

2. God made me to _____.

Genesis 1:27-28; 2:17

3. _____ when I take responsibility for my life.

Genesis 3:11b-12

4. Blame is

a. _____.

b. _____ and _____.

5. **Scapegoating:** the practice of blaming somebody or a group for problems that are _____
_____.

“Victim” – Greek (Pharmakos) - Pharmacology Leviticus 16:8-10

6. Jesus became the ultimate scapegoat so _____
_____.

1 Peter 2:23-24

7. Conviction of Sin: I _____ my plank. **Psalms 19:12**

Life Steps

Am I the Problem? The Plank | March 4 & 5, 2023

Monday

Genesis 1:27-28

Reflect: In modern day language, what does it mean to be made in the image of God and what are the responsibilities (vs 28) that go along with such an identity?

Prayer: I am the problem, Lord, change me.

Tuesday

Genesis 3:11-13 | I Peter 2:23-24

Reflect: When God asks Adam about his disobedience, how does Adam respond? Compare Jesus' response to the mob with Adam's response to God. What is your takeaway from these two passages?

Prayer: I am the problem, Lord, change me.

Wednesday

Matthew 7:3-5

Reflect: What are the "specks" you have recently seen in other people's eyes? What is the "plank" in your own eye? How can this problem be solved?

Prayer: I am the problem, Lord, change me.

Thursday

Luke 18:9-14

Reflect: What is the difference between being humbled and being humble? Faultfinders are experts at finding faults in others. Humble people are experts at finding faults in themselves. Which is your tendency?

Prayer: I am the problem, Lord, change me.

Friday

Leviticus 16:8-10 | Genesis 4:6-8

Reflect: "Scapegoating" is the practice of identifying a victim to blame for your problems, or how your own life has turned out. For example, how Cain acted with his brother Abel. Past and present, who have you made scapegoats in your life story?

Prayer: I am the problem, Lord, change me.

Saturday

Matthew 27:24 | I Peter 2:23-24

Reflect: Identify from these passages the differences between Pilate and Jesus? How do you usually react when unjustly, unfairly; life doesn't unfold as you hoped or expected?

Prayer: Thank you, God, for sending Jesus to be the scapegoat for all humanity. I am the problem, Lord, change me.

Sunday

Psalms 19: 12-13

Reflect: Draw a circle in your journal. Ask God to show you what needs to change in you. Write each revelation (a bad habit, sarcasm, negative thinking, stubbornness, pouting, a short fuse, nagging, etc.) in your circle. Circle the three you most want God to help you change.

Prayer: I am the problem, Lord, change me.