



COUNTER CULTURE CHRIST

THE CIVILITY CHALLENGE

RENÉ SCHLAEPFER | MAY 18 & 19

“**Judge not**, or you too will be judged.” Matthew 7:1

Filter your responses through these four principles:

1. The Principle of _____
Am I willing for this content and tone to be reflected back to me?

“For **in the same way you judge others, you will be judged**, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” Matthew 7:2

2. The Principle of _____
Have I made a rigorously honest self-inventory first?

“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, **first take the plank out of your own eye**, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.” Matthew 7:3-5

Learn to honestly say, “_____”

3. The Principle of _____
Is this the right person, place, and time for this message?

“Do not give dogs what is sacred; **do not throw your pearls to pigs**. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and then turn and tear you to pieces.” Matthew 7:6

4. The Principle of _____
Am I redirecting people to what really matters: God’s love?

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, **love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you**, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. Matthew 5:43-45

“You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:14a,16

Don’t settle for making a _____ instead of making a _____.

“Blessed are the **meek**, for they will inherit the earth... Blessed are the **merciful**, for they will be shown mercy... Blessed are the **peacemakers**, for they will be called children of God.” Matthew 5:5,7,9

MORE VERSES ON CIVILITY

Set a guard over my mouth; watch my lips to keep me from speaking thoughtlessly. Psalm 141:3 AMP

Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry. James 1:19b

But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Colossians 3:8

Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. Colossians 4:6

NEXT WEEK

NEW SERIES: EVERYDAY SACRED

Most people think of church and their “spiritual life” as sacred. It’s for Sunday. Then there’s Monday. Real life. But God’s grace can touch your problems, attitudes, relationships, speech—all of life! Join us for this series in the Book of James about making every day sacred.



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