1) What is your typical response to hard people? Do you get angry or do you go silent? Do you harbor resentment or do you easily forget?

2) Read Matthew 22:15-22 and discuss:

·What does it mean that the Pharisees were trying to trap Jesus in his words? V.15

•The Pharisees are really schmoozing Jesus in v.16. What's

the purpose?

Jesu's called them hypocrites in v. 18. Is OK to speak the truth to difficult people? Have you ever applied this approach to a difficult person in your life? • Why were the Pharisees amazed at Jesus' answer? V.22

3) Read Matthew 5:38-42. Why from your experience is it better to not return evil for evil? Why do you think Jesus told us to go the extra mile?

- 4) Read Matthew 5:43-48. Why, according to Jesus, is it inconsistent for a child of God to be hating their enemies? What is the purpose behind praying for your enemies? What does it mean to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect? V.48
- 5) What is one change that Jesus wants you to make to the hard people in your life?
- 6) Pray for one another.

15410 North 67th Avenue Suite 5 Glendale, AZ 85306 623-466-6807

Venture Church Office Monday: 6:00pm Celebrate Recovery

Tuesday: 10:00am Ladies Bible Study in Suite 1 Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. Classes for All Ages

Friday: 11:00 a.m. Silver Sneakers Chair Exercise in Suite 1

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School For All Ages 9:00 a.m. Worship Celebration 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration

Women's Brunch

When: Saturday, May 4th at 11:00 a.m. Where: Gillian McLaughlin's Home (87th Avenue & Bell Road)

Join us for food, fun, and fellowship. Sign-up at the Giving Table or on a Start Card.

With Child Outreach

Venture is collecting baby wipes and diapers in sizes 5 and 6 for With Child Center. Thank you for your generosity to this outreach!

Free Arts of AZ Art Supply Drive

For the month of April, Venture is collecting art supplies to help Free Arts of AZ. Drop off donations in the art box by the sound booth. Questions? See Catherine Schwoerer for more information.

If you're enjoying the coffee today, you can purchase your own at www.ThisLittleHouseOfMine.store. 100% of proceeds go to children and families in crisis. You can get more info at the coffee pot or donation table.

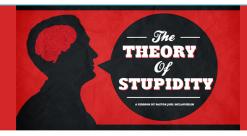


Celebrate Recovery

Monday Nights in Suite 13 Everyone is welcome! 6PM- Light Dinner 6:30PM- Service

The Theory of Stupidity

April 28th, 2024



A Sermon by Pastor Joel

"Stupidity is a more dangerous enemy of the good than evil. One may protest against evil; it can be exposed and, if need be, prevented by use of force. Against stupidity we are defenseless. Neither protests nor the use of force accomplish anything here; reason falls on deaf ears; facts that contradict simply need not be believed even when the facts are irrefutable, they are just pushed aside as inconsequential."

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid. - Proverbs 12:1

1) God is the great **SOURCE** when it comes to great thinking!

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. - Proverbs 9:10

2) Confront your unhealthy thinking HABITS!

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. - Philippians 4:8

3) Stay humble and willing to <u>LEARN</u> from everyone!

Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning. - Proverbs 9:9

4) Apply a disciplined approach to STUDYING God's Word!

"I want to know one thing, the way to heaven; how to land safe on that happy shore. God Himself has condescended to teach the way; for this end He came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book. Give me that book! At any price give me the Book of God!"

- John Wesley

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing in your Sight, Oh Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

- Psalm 19:14