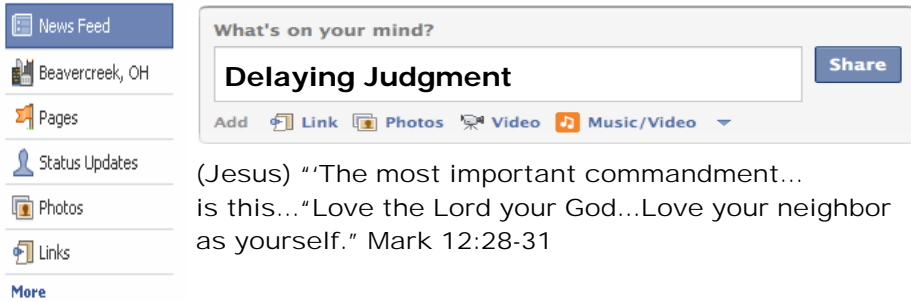





the vineyard on facebook

creating spiritual networks



Fifth Principle: Be careful how you judge others.

 "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. 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 7:1-2 (NIV)

How God brings healing and health to my relationships:


First: He moves me from hypocrisy to honesty.


Then: He moves me from honesty to integrity.

Finally: He moves me from integrity to mercy.


How to relate like Jesus:


1. Look inward before looking outward.

 "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 (NIV)


 "Judgment [begins] with the family of God..." 1 Peter 4:17 (NIV)


2. Delay judgment.

 "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?'...'If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.'...At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus straightened up and asked her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she said. 'Then neither do I condemn you,' Jesus declared. 'Go now and leave your life of sin.'" John 8:4-11 (NIV)


 "Man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires." James 1:20 (NIV)


3. Err on the side of mercy.

 (Pharisees) "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and "sinners"?" Jesus said, 'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.'" Matthew 9:11-13 (NIV)

 Jesus - "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." Matthew 12:7 (NIV)
James - (Jesus' brother) "Mercy triumphs over judgment!" James 2:13 (NIV)


4. Remain silent about motives.


 "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." Luke 6:36-38 (NIV)

 "Jesus Christ will judge the secret lives of everyone, their inmost thoughts and motives." Romans 2:16 (LB)

Why does God delay judgment?

He gives people time to change.

 "For I, Son of Mankind, shall come with my angels in the glory of my Father and judge each person according to his deeds." Matthew 16:27 (LB)

 "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)

