



FPC News

First Presbyterian Church

FPC News
October 1, 2011



CHEF & CHIEF

I've been asked to present some of the contrasting characteristics that were identified in the 9-11-11 sermon. I offer them in a specific context & with the title of *CHEF & CHIEF*.

Often it is the case that a caring Christian will make a statement, & then quickly say something like: *But, we are not supposed to judge!* Sometimes you may have a thought, & then you ask yourself: *Am I being judgmental?* This is a spiritual issue, & one about which Jesus & Paul seem to conflict.

According to Matthew 7:1, Jesus says: *Judge not, that you be not judged.* But Paul says in First Corinthians 2:15: *The spiritual man judges all things.* How do we make sense out of these seemingly contradictory verses of scripture?

The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, the NRSV, translates Paul here as saying: *Those who are spiritual discern all things.* That's the difference! The qualitative difference! "To Judge" is qualitatively different from "To Discern"!

So, how is "A JUDGING SPIRIT" distinguished from "A DISCERNING SPIRIT"?

The two contrasting lists that are forthcoming are only some of the ingredients that make up "A Judgmental Attitude" & "A Discerning Attitude". As we see these two contrasting lists below, we can think about which list most accurately describes our attitudes & actions. We can consider where we tend to function along this character continuum.

<u>Judgmental</u>	<u>Discerning</u>
<i>"Knowing" with little understanding</i>	<i>Seeing with much understanding</i>
<i>High level of negative emotion</i>	<i>High level of positive emotion</i>
<i>Inflexible</i>	<i>Flexible</i>
<i>Judges others not self</i>	<i>Considers others & self responsible</i>
<i>Unteachable spirit</i>	<i>Teachable spirit</i>
<i>Rarely says, "I'm wrong/sorry"</i>	<i>Freely says, "I'm wrong/sorry"</i>

Authoritarian Leadership

*Imposes Thoughts
Feelings*

*Other persons must agree
in order to be accepted*

Collaborative Leadership

*Relates Thoughts &
Feelings*

*Others do not have to
in order to be accepted*

Again, these contrasting characteristics are only a representative sample of the various ingredients that make up "A Judgmental Spirit" & "A Discerning Spirit". Secondly, these contrasting ingredients are not absolute qualities. They represent *attitudinal tendencies*. Each list develops a different kind of attitude. Each list describes a different quality of spirit.

One list is the recipe for "A Judgmental Attitude" & the other list is the recipe for "A Discerning Attitude". We are CHEF since we decide which recipe we want cooking on the stove of our spirit. We are CHIEF since we are responsible for the quality of the various ingredients we mix into our lives.

It is a false struggle that comes from the false, mixed message of "not-to-judge/to judge". **The true struggle develops healthy character quality.** Jesus & Paul agree on character, on the kind of spirit, on the quality of spirit that a healthy spiritual person cultivates. A passage from the book Speaking the Truth in Love speaks to the real struggle. *Just as Christians participate in a lifelong struggle to live a life fully obedient to God, so the development of an integrated personality is a lifelong process of personal growth* (p.29). Integrating the quality ingredients of a genuine discerning spirit is a continuing spiritual process in all of us. And God is ready, willing & able to help us all along the way!

What kind of spirit do you & I have: Judgmental or Discerning? What kind of spirit do you & I want: Judgmental or Discerning? What kind of spirit does God desire you & I cultivate?

It is a profound reality: **the quality of our thoughts/judgments . . . creates the quality of our spirit!** (cf. Proverbs 23:7, KJV)

In Christian Love,
Stuart



Oct. 1 - Katrina Johnson, Helen Ogburn, Pam Patterson
 Oct. 3 - Seth Washburn
 Oct. 4 - Maggie Phillips
 Oct. 5 - Betty Hart, Matthew Kirkey
 Oct. 6 - Eli Diffee, Sue Ehmig, Marilyn Stevens
 Oct. 7 - Andy Childress
 Oct. 8 - Stephanie Morgan
 Oct. 9 - Scott Kimble
 Oct. 10 - Nancy Wazenegger
 Oct. 11 - Alice Heins, Jonathan York, Carson Cameron
 Oct. 12 - Becky Jones
 Oct. 14 - Midge Holmes
 Oct. 16 - William Boaz, Dottie Gall
 Oct. 19 - Valerie Davenport
 Oct. 20 - Cathy Johnson, Jacob Kimble, Taylor Woodell
 Oct. 21 - Julian Philpott, Roy Cashion
 Oct. 22 - Don Suddarth
 Oct. 24 - Wendell McGee, Joan Edson
 Oct. 25 - Mary Alice Holmes, Kay Faucette
 Oct. 26 - Carolyn Washburn
 Oct. 28 - Cynthia Philpott
 Oct. 29 - Monty Terrell, Jessica Brewer
 Oct. 31 - Susan King, Ruth Peele

Breadbasket News

On September 13th First Presbyterian volunteers served 125+ plates of spaghetti, slaw (donated by Bay Breeze restaurant), green beans and potatoes, garlic bread, sodas, and various desserts to hungry and grateful patrons. Our volunteers were: Jana Wilkinson, Lucille York, William Wagoner, Pam Patter-

son, Hope Knight and Mary Alice Homes. Breadbasket day for our church is the second Tuesday of each month. If you would like to volunteer, please call Joanna Dempsey at 718-5969 or Lori at 775-5216.

Mary Alice Holmes

CUOC News

Our next CUOC food offering will be Sunday, October 16th.

Pray for our Shut-Ins



Emily Buchanan-Parkview; Doris Gibson; Herb Hardisty-Sanford Health & Rehab.; Lo Keith; Barbara McDermott; Ralph & Vivian Monger-Parkview; Margaret Poe-Parkview; Sallie Tatum-Parkview

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the Family of Dorothy Foushee.

Please Remember in Prayer

Members: Steve Brewer's wife, Kathy; Betty Lou Bristow (Wake Med); Vivian Dull; Mary Jon Herman (CCH)

Friends: Jessica Brewer's mother, Linda Brewer; Debbie Campbell's mother, Joan Jones; Andrew Darroch; Lou Ann Davis; Ruth Gurtis' grandson, Evan Gurtis; Grace McDuffie; Debbie

Nigro; Rick Paderick's father, Clif Paderick; Cathy Patterson; Pam Patterson's father, Perry White; Randy Robertson's father, Walter Robertson; Paul Sehorne; Griff Sperry's father, C.B. Sperry; Paula Spivey; Elizabeth Suther's cousin, Amanda Mager; Monty Terrell's father, John Terrell; Anne Thompson; Mary Waters; Rhonda Woodell's uncle, Doug Chrisley

Periodically the prayer list is updated. If a name was removed in error, or if you added a person to the prayer list and their name now needs to be removed, please call Lori in the church office at 775-5216.

Men of the Church

The Men of the Church breakfast will be held Sunday, Oct. 16th at 8:00 a.m. in the Harper Center.

Don't miss the delicious breakfast , great program and wonderful fellowship!

Ushers for October

Captain - Wallace Bland

9am:

Wallace and Joan Bland

11am:

Joan Bland

Emily Kelly

David Miller

Harrison Miller

Alston Miller

If you are unable to fulfill your commitment for a Sunday, please find a replacement.

Singles' Luncheon

The Singles' Luncheon will be Wednesday, Oct. 19th at noon in the Harper Center.

Mr. Ben Aycock will be our guest this month and he will talk to us about senior fire safety. It will be most informative and will have us all doing a mental checklist of our own homes. Don't miss the important program and wonderful food!

Please invite a friend and make your reservation (775-5216) by Monday, Oct. 17th.

October Door

Greeters

Sanctuary

Steve Morgan

Joan Wagoner

Mclver Hall

Jerry Campbell

October

Meals on Wheels

Coordinating Team

Church Flowers

Circle # 2

Presbyterian Women Circles

For the year 2011, all Circles will gather at the church for their meeting. Each month everyone will meet together and watch a video then separate into their regular Circle groups (locations listed below.) Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 10th. Circles 1 - 5 will meet at 10am in the Sr. High Room.

Circle 1: Parlor: **Circle 2:** Library

Circle 3: Sr. High Room:

Circle 4: Hobson Class Room:

Circle 5: Conference Room

Circles 6 & 7: Sr. High Room (7pm)

Circle 8: 3rd Sunday each month in the Library during Sunday School.

Our Presbyterian Church community continues demonstrating their spirit of love in crises. Expressing our deep and sincere appreciation seems small, when your expressions of concern supported by your prayers, has resulted in recovery.

Your various manners of contacts were a 'pillar of strength' in facing and dealing with our crisis. Evan has moved from the critical stage to a long recovery phase. God answered your prayers and chose to grant Evan his life. May he live to glorify this blessing.

Thank you, from our grateful hearts for the manner you gave and used in reaching out for Evan and to the family.

In Christian Love and God's blessing,
Ruth Gurtis & Family

First Presbyterian Church

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919-775-4465 fax
919-708-9502 prayer line

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What's Happening in October???

Sun., Oct. 2 - 9am Contemporary Service/Communion; 9:45am Adult Sunday School; 10am Children's Sunday School; 11am Worship/Communion; 3pm PW Bible Moderators; 4pm Admin. Committee meets; 5pm Youth

Mon., Oct. 3 - 9am Staff Meeting; 5:45pm Deacons Meet; 6:30pm Elders Meet

Tues., Oct. 4 - 10am Bible Study; 7pm Bible Study

Wed., Oct. 5 - 6pm Contemporary Choir; 7:15pm Choir Practice

Thurs., Oct. 6 - 7pm

Prayer Meeting

Sun., Oct. 9 - 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Adult Sunday School; 10am Children's Sunday School; 11am Worship; 12pm PW Coordinating Team; 5pm Youth

Mon., Oct 10 - Circles Meet; 9am Staff Meeting

Tues., Oct. 11 - 10am Bible Study; 7pm Bible Study

Wed., Oct. 12 - 3:15pm Stephen Ministers/Leaders; 6pm Contemporary Choir; 7:15pm Choir Practice

Sat., Oct. 15 - Presbytery Meeting - St. Paul

Sun., Oct. 16 - 8am

MOC Breakfast; 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Adult Sunday School; 10am Children's Sunday School; 11am Worship; 4:30pm Committees Meet; 5pm Youth

Mon., Oct. 17 - 9am Staff Meeting

Tues., Oct. 18 - 10am Bible Study; 7pm Bible Study

Wed., Oct. 19 - 12pm Singles' Luncheon; 6pm Contemporary Choir; 7:15pm Choir Practice

Thurs., Oct. 20 - 7pm Prayer Meeting

Fri., Oct. 21 - 7pm Healthy Congregations Workshop

Sat., Oct. 22 - 9am Healthy Congregations Workshop

Sun., Oct. 23 - Consecration Sunday; 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Adult Sunday School; 10am Children's Sunday School; 11am Worship; 5pm Youth

Wed., Oct. 26 - 6pm Contemporary Choir; 7:15pm Choir Practice

Sun., Oct. 30 - 9am Contemporary Service; 9:45am Adult Sunday School; 10am Children's Sunday School; 11am Worship; 5pm Youth