

This Is Why You Have To Honestly Evaluate Your Abilities...

I. Introduction:

A. As we begin this lesson, let me reiterate the point of the title. This is not a lesson about evaluating anyone other than one's self (**I Corinthians 11:28; 11:31** and **II Corinthians 13:5**).

1. There is a time and reason to test others (**Matthew 7:15-20**).
2. But, you cannot spend so much effort on others that you forget to test yourself (**Galatians 6:4-5**) even when you're thinking of examining others (**Luke 6:41-42**).

B. Ultimately, your greatest responsibility is for your own behavior (**Romans 14:1-12**).

1. Yes, help others (**Hebrews 3:12-13** and **Hebrews 10:24-25**), but...
2. ...Ultimately, even when a teacher is teaching others, each individual is responsible to get their own lives in order (**Acts 2:40** and **Philippians 2:12**).

II. Body: The Lord Expects You To Work With What He Has Given You (**Luke 19:11-27**).

A. The Lord' expectations are based upon what you are able to do (**Matthew 25:14-15**).

1. "As the ability which God giveth" (**I Peter 4:10-11**).
2. Think about the point of knowledge and how more is required based upon knowledge (**Matthew 11:20-24**, **John 15:18-24**, and **James 4:17**).

B. Consider what is said regarding those who take on higher responsibilities (**James 3:1** and **Hebrews 13:17**).

1. Leaders can easily have blood on their hands (**Ezekiel 33:7-9**).
2. Leaders are expected not only to teach, but even as a higher standard to be examples for others to follow in their conduct (**I Timothy 4:11-16** and **Hebrews 13:7**; cf. CAUTION: **Romans 14:13**).

C. Consider how the Lord expects more of the strong than of the weak (**Romans 15:1-3**). *Where are you in this: strong or weak?

1. In areas of authorized liberties (**I Corinthians 8:1-13**).
2. Also in the work of the local church (**I Corinthians 12:14-27**).
3. Those whom are lower in ability are not expected to rise above their abilities. It is the higher than must come down lower (**I Corinthians 9:22**).

III. Conclusion: To be ready to be judged you need to know not only the Lord's will (**John 12:48** and **Romans 2:16**), but also what He expects of you based upon your abilities. The more you are capable of, the more the Lord expects of you (**Luke 12:35-48**).