

But sanctify the Lord Christ in your hearts, being ready always to satisfy every one who calls you to account for the hope which is in you. But with modesty and reverence, having a good conscience, so that, when you are abused, those who speak maliciously against your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better, if such be the will of God, that you suffer for doing right than for doing wrong."

(1 Pet 3,8-17)

Imitation of JESUS

Endeavour to imitate JESUS in everything! That is my greatest wish and my joy!



Schwert-Bischof
JESU CHRISTI

**Be blessed by GOD TRINITY,
the + FATHER and the + SON
and the + HOLY GHOST. Amen!**

Schwert-Bischof
JESU CHRISTI
sb.



Sermon of the *Sword-Bishop*

Unchristian Behaviour

After decades of experience I must come to the conclusion that almost every person, no matter who he is and how pious he is, has problems learning his mistakes from others. This is mainly due to his being too often unaware of his own mistakes. And too often one believes that one has dealt fairly and like a Christian with the neighbour. Unfortunately one tends to forget to look at everything also from the other's point of view – to place oneself in his position and feel with him.

Until you have asked yourself whether you might be accusing the other person although he is innocent, you are not ready for Christian forgiveness. In this case you are prejudiced. How would you size up a judge like that in court?

Francis of Sales:

„How much does presumptuous judging displease God! And presumptuous is when someone makes himself the judge of his fellow-men, since only God is entitled to that. This is presumptuous because wickedness depends on the disposition of the heart, which remains hidden from view in the dark. It is also presumptuous because everyone has enough to do to judge himself ... If an action is not bad in itself, yet it is evil suspicion to draw a false conclusion from it, unless several circumstances support what is said. It is likewise a presumptuous reasoning if you think you can recognize the person from a single action.

Who is the Neighbour?

You must not judge and condemn the other person as you think fit. Consider first his nature and character. Even GOD does it that way – who first searches hearts and minds! Does man want to be more severe than GOD – be above HIM? Bear in mind, the measure you use will be the measure you receive from HIM!

Heart-to-Heart Talk

If it comes to a heart-to-heart talk, it will only be fair and pleasing to GOD if you do not insist on your right from the very beginning. It is not the purpose of a discussion to want to be in the right, but to learn whether or not you are right!

The Important Why

How often do I tell you: Never judge until you have asked: „Why?“ – Thus also the Mother of GOD spoke when she and st Joseph found JESUS in the Temple after looking for Him for three days: „My Child, why have you done this to us?“

Slander

Condemning the neighbour brings so many bad things in its wake. Slander is at the top of the list. Whoever manages to put a stop to malicious gossip would get rid of a large part of sin and injustice.

Apostles Teach It

„For we all stumble in many things. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also with a bridle to lead about the whole body.

For if we put bits into the mouths of horses, that they may obey us, we also turn about their whole body. Behold also ships, whereas they

are great and are driven by strong winds, yet are they guided by a small rudder, whithersoever the force of the governor wills. Likewise the tongue is indeed a little member and boasts great things. Behold how small a fire kindles a great wood. The tongue also is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is placed among our members, staining the whole body and setting on fire the wheel of birth, and is itself set on fire by hell.

For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea is tamed and has been tamed by the nature of man. But no man can tame the tongue, an unquiet evil, full of deadly poison. By it we bless God and the Father, and by it we curse men who are made in ‘the likeness of God’ (Gen 1,27). Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so. Does a fountain pour forth from the same opening sweet and bitter water? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olives or a grapevine figs? Neither can a salt spring yield fresh water.” (Jam 3,2-12)

„Do not speak evil against one another, brethren. He that speaks evil of his brother or judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law, but a judge. There is one lawgiver and judge, who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you that you judge your neighbour?“ (Jam 4,11-12)

„Finally, all of you, be of one mind, having compassion of one another, love as brethren, merciful, modest, humble. Do not return evil for evil or insult for insult, but contrariwise, blessing: for unto this are you called, that you may inherit a blessing. For ,whoever would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile. He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their prayers; but the countenance of the Lord is against those who do evil things’ (Ps 34,13ff).

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is right? But even if you do suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed! ,And be not afraid of their terror, nor be troubled’ (Isa 8,12)!
