



A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of March 27, 2022

Pearls Before Pigs

This week, Pastor Steve Shelby preached from [Matthew 7:6](#)

⁶ “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.”

- Can you think of a time when you **did not share something** because you thought it could be **mocked or misunderstood**?
- Remember that Jesus is preaching to a Jewish crowd. What would **come to mind as He speaks about “dogs” and “pigs”**? (cf. [Proverbs 26:11, 11:22; II Peter 2:22](#))
- **Who are these “dogs” and “pigs”**?
- As we follow along in the Sermon on the Mount, didn't Jesus just teach us not to judge ([Matthew 7:1-5](#))? **Is Jesus urging us to judge others** here in verse 6?
- A Jew would never feed holy food used in religious ceremonies to dogs, and would never waste precious resources on unclean pigs. **What thing is Jesus saying we should not share here?**
- Certainly, Jesus is not forbidding sharing the holy and precious Good News with unbelievers. This same Jesus commanded His disciples to bring the Gospel to Jew and Gentile alike in His Great Commission ([Matthew 28:18-20](#)). **He must be talking about a particular context. What is it?**
- How do we go about **discerning** if we are among “dogs” and “pigs”, or among those who are eager to receive the blessing of God and the Good News of the Kingdom?
- In a sense, **sin had made all of us spiritual “dogs” and “pigs”** (cf. [Romans 8:7](#)). So, **how does that shape our posture and ministry** toward those who promise to trample pearls underfoot and attack?
- Remember that the **precious & holy One teaching here was delivered over to His crucifiers**. He was trampled upon and attacked in our place. **Repent and pray together** in light of this week's passage.

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