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## "JUDGING OTHER'S FLAWS"

By Ronald W. Clark Jr

Guy's will often come up to me and say, "RC why do you fight for all these guys, their not worth it, a lot of them smile in your face, and talk behind your back." I say " That's the price we pay, for the mistakes we make." I want tell you a lie, I don't like everyone in here, and there's a lot of guys who don't like me, and never will. And my goal is not for them to like me. My goal is to bring about change, to better the conditions of the men and women that are currently in the FDOC and will come after I'm gone.

I've done things for men who I know don't like me, but I know they needed help at the time, so I reached out for them, and got them the assistance they needed. I'll do it for anyone who I see in a bad position. Whether or not they would do it for me, is irrelevant. Doing the right thing, is usually doing the hardest thing. Its easy to help and love those who love and care about us.

That's even taught in the biblical text in Matthew 5:46-47 where Jesus says," We get no credit for loving those who love us, for even the sinners love those who love them!"

When we step out of our comfort zone and reach across the aisle and assist an enemy, whether it be by their doing or ours, then and only then have we shown true brotherly love and compassion and mercy that's worthy of being called such. And that is the problem with the world today. We lack compassion and mercy outside of our comfort zone. So we aren't showing it to those who are truly in need. I'm no Saint, and don't won't to become one. I'm not worthy! I try to do the best I can ,with what I've got. And what I've got is a mind and willingness to push for change! To help those who will come long after I'm gone. We are here today, and gone tomorrow! Life is to precious to sit around and nit pick over others flaws and mistakes. When we have our own flaws that we need to address internally. It doesn't matter what others think of us, it matters what we think of ourselves. I don't hold myself in high esteem. I'm a no body, who's just trying to make a difference in a harsh cruel environment. And I've made more than my share of mistakes. So why cast stones at others, when you should be internally working towards bettering yourself, and doing good for those who are in need. And we have many who are in need of our assistant. Most of what I do, comes from listening to others complaints. A guy asked me several weeks ago,"RC file a grievance on too many people on the yard." He then said" No don't worry about it, if I'm not willing to do it ,I shouldn't ask you to do it." I did it anyways. Because we need the change, and I'm capable of doing. I didn't do it for praise, I did it because it was a legitimate request that had validity.

You can love me, you can hate me, but I can only be me, flaws and all. Yes maybe I'm unworthy of your forgiveness, maybe I'm unworthy of your compassion and mercy and I feel you... cause I often feel unworthy. The shame guilt self loathing, its a part of my existence, and pushes me to do the right thing, when its often difficult to do. My advise to all, is always think before you act, and judge others deeds.... or "misdeeds" as you would have them judge yours. For we are all a walking talking human flaw of imperfection.

May God bless you and guide you though this harsh and judgemental life.

Sincerely Ronald W. Clark Jr.

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