

## Reflection Questions: Luke 6:43-45

For the message, "The Overflow of Our Hearts" given by Pastor John Ferguson at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on September 1, 2019

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These reflection questions are designed to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life. You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion. To review the message, go to [MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages](http://MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages).

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **Pray and then read the Scripture text:**

Luke 6:43-45: "43 For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit. 44 For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. 45 The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, **for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.**

**A summary of the message:** Our words reveal our hearts. The reason Jesus cares about our words is because he cares about our hearts.

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### **QUESTIONS**

#### **1. Let's think about how this text applies to our lives as individuals.**

- How comfortable are you with Jesus' teaching that your words reveal your heart, and why?
- How does this text help you to understand your need for the good news of Jesus and the grace that he offers? In other words, How does this text show you your need for the cleansing, renewing, transforming grace of God?
- Read 1 Peter 2:22-24, "*He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.*"

How does the passage from 1 Peter teach us that Jesus is at once a worthy example, the perfect substitute for us, as well a worthy king to give the allegiance of our hearts and lips to?

#### **2. Let's think about how this text applies to us as a community of Jesus' followers.**

- What kind of community is this text calling us to become for the sake of the world? In other words, how does this text form and inform a community of healing words in a world of hurtful words?
- What is the cost if we are not transformed by this text? In other words, what is lost if we ignore the message? How is our calling damaged if our hearts / lips are not transformed?

#### **3. Let's think about how this text applies to our city.**

- What questions do you think people in our city would ask of this text?
- How does this text serve as Good News for those outside the faith? What kind of new life / future in Christ is this text calling our city to experience?