

the  Venues
Go Deep

Are Your Thoughts Hurting Others?

6.14.2020

When was the last time you had a mean thought? Unkind thought? Judgmental thought?

Read Matthew 9:1-5.

What did Jesus do that so upset the religious leaders?

Which is more important: theological correctness or human compassion?

What question does Jesus ask the religious leaders?

What was “evil” about their thoughts?

Read the following passages and list and discuss what is mentioned as an “evil thought.”

Ezekiel 38:10-12

Luke 1:51

James 2:1-4

What strikes you about the thoughts that are highlighted?

Jesus asks the religious leaders why they are “harboring” or “entertaining” evil thoughts.

What do the words “harbor” and “entertain” say about what we do with our thoughts?

How have we as a nation “harbored” thoughts of prejudice, abuse of power, and pride?

How have you “harbored” those thoughts?

The word “evil” means “pain.”

What pain have you seen brought on by “harboring” thoughts of prejudice, pride, and abusive power?

When Jesus asks us why we are thinking evil thoughts, he is giving us an opportunity to face them and replace them.

What thoughts do you need to face and replace?