

CHECK OUT WHAT
CATECHISM OF THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
SAYS ABOUT RASH
JUDGMENT
CCC 2477



In my opinion...

LUKE 6:39-45

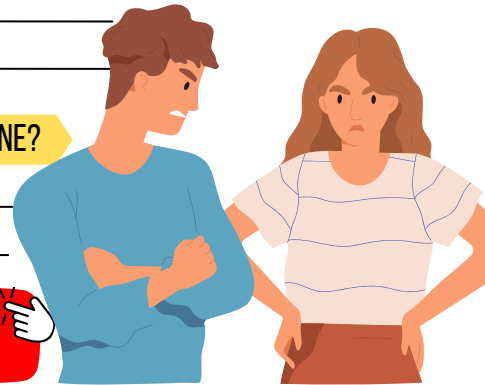
Set a guard over
my mouth, Lord;
keep watch over the
door of my lips.
Psalm 141:3-4

UNASKED FOR AND UNSOLICITED ADVICE IS JUST CRITICISM...

ARE YOU SOMEONE WHO HAS STRONG OPINIONS? DO YOU FEEL YOU HAVE TO SHARE THEM WITH OTHERS?

HOW WELL DO YOU TAKE CRITICISM? WHEN IS IT EASIER TO TAKE CRITICISM FROM SOMEONE?

WATCH THIS VIDEO FROM FR MIKE SCHMITZ "EXPRESSING YOUR OPINION" AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW



Why did Fr Mike feel he could not offer his opinion on the OJ Simpson trial?

What does he mean when he says "I don't deserve to have an opinion on this topic"?

FOUR QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE EXPRESSING YOUR OPINION

WHY?

- What are my motives for speaking:
- Do I want to be right? To fix someone? Is it because I'm angry?
- Why am I speaking? Is it out of vengeance or justice?

• **Vengeance** as my motive means: _____

• **Justice** as my motive means: _____



WHAT?

- What am I speaking about? Is it a real thing? Is it a truth?
- Is it a principle or just a p_____?



WHO?

- Who am I? What is my r_____ with this person?
- Do I have their permission to offer my opinion or correction?
- Remember! Unsolicited (unasked for) advice is actually just c_____!



HOW?

There are two sides to communication:

- What is said Vs What is _____
- What is offered Vs What is _____

- A truth that needs to be spoken needs to take into account the person I want to receive it. I need to say it in a way they'll hear it more clearly.
- Am I saying it for myself or for _____?



IN MY OPINION...

LUKE 6:39-45

Jesus taught us how to offer correction when necessary for *personal stuff*.

READ MATTHEW 18:15-18



Step 1: _____

Step 2: _____

Step 3: _____



What not to do! _____



Now Read Luke 6:39-45



Being a follower of Christ is not for the apathetic - He constantly calls us to greater things and closer union with Him. More often than not, that call involves searching deep in our own hearts and considering how well we are treating others. He doesn't tell us we cannot judge actions. He Himself talks in this passage about good and rotten fruit. Good and evil actions are a reality of life; but judging another's heart and their motives is not our job, it's His. It can be really hard to bite our tongues, especially when we feel we're so clearly right and they're just not getting it!?! Reflecting on the why, what, who and how of our opinions can be just the speed bump we need, stopping us from jumping in feet first into needless criticism that can just burn bridges and harden hearts. What kind of witness to Christ do I show daily? Is this how Jesus would speak? Am I correcting out of love, or out of a need to justify myself? Do I even know enough about the topic or this person to have an informed opinion? When it comes to someone else's heart, we need to tread carefully and lovingly. Above all, let's check for any glaringly obvious planks in our own eyes and work on those first!



MISSION!

PUT FR MIKE'S FOUR QUESTION RULE INTO PRACTICE THIS WEEK WHEN FACED WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO OFFER YOUR OPINION AND WEIGH UP IF THIS SOMETHING YOU ACTUALLY DESERVE TO HAVE AN OPINION ON? WHY ARE YOU SPEAKING ABOUT THIS? DO YOU HAVE THE KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS PERSON THAT ALLOWS YOU TO SPEAK YOUR MIND? WHAT IS THE BEST WAY FOR THE RECEIVER TO HEAR YOUR OPINION?



PRAYER TIME!

Memorise and repeat every morning:

*Set a guard over my mouth, Lord;
Keep watch over the door of my lips.*



Psalms 141:3-4

CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON YOUR HEART'S MOTIVES



- [Love you with the truth - Casting Crowns](#)
- [Psalm 141 Song - Jason Silver](#)
- [I shall not want - Audrey Assad](#)
- [Mean Girls \(Leanna Crawford\)](#)
- [May the words of my mouth - Tim Hughes](#)
- [Slow Fade \(Casting Crowns\)](#)
- [From the Inside Out - Hillsong](#)
- [Lifesong \(Casting Crowns\)](#)

Click the links for the YouTube videos to listen to some suggestions!



Fr Patrick Cahill: "The Spirit of God"



Annie from Holy Family Mission shares how lockdown prompted her to search her own heart