April 2019

Word for word Allamakee County pastor's ponderings Rev. Gary Catterson, Community Presbyterian Church

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Word for Word: Allamakee County Pastor’s Ponderings; Rev. Gary Cotton, Community Presbyterian Church

I am not a fan of illegal immigration, but many of the people affected by this raid were good people, certainly not the American dream. Many of these men and women were in the process of trying to make a life in our system of immigration. Our government should do more than talk to us in an election year so nothing will happen. We are driving more illegal immigration laws this year. My question remains: How much more years before now, why didn’t they do this then? I am also not a fan ofemptying out prisons of illegally immigrating employees. They need to fill the prisons to empty their warehouses to pay for work we want done. But we do not want these illegals to be treated poorly. Wages should be below legal and given for a day’s work. We cannot expect this period of illegal immigration to last forever. The government should be in on this another and go by the law.

Rev. Cotton

In Luke 6:37 we read, “Judge not, that you be not judged; and you will not be judged, and you will not be condemned.” I believe this is the day and age I believe this has more than ever before. We live in a time when people will not be taught. We find this judging of others in our current political news. One candidate thinks that she has all the right answers and the other says she doesn’t. The same goes for the second one. The point is to get back to the Bible and know that the other should not be considered for office.

We all know of the events in Postville over the last couple of months. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents arrived in Postville May 12 and the debate has raged since that day. It is easy to point our fingers at the illegal immigrants and say that they got what they deserved.

They broke the law and must stand before a judge in a court of law to answer for their actions. On the other hand, it is also a way to open a window to see how the poor workers are treated. We can condemn the management for their actions or inaction. There are some who quietly have enjoyed the benefits of the poor treatment. They believe the immigrants should be drained imme- diately and the processing and the courts are full of all those who come of all countries of the world. It is time that some of our people begin to take on the life in the Midwest as well. For example, John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

Sadly, this judging and condemning is the place in our churches and coffee shops today as we try to point fingers at the illegal immigrants. 

“Why should I help you?”

I sometimes think that if he saw them, he was a Christian. I believe this might be the case. I believe he should be treated with respect and honor. Forgive, and do not condemn. Forgive, and do not condemn; do not condemn, and do not be judged.

“Little White Lies”

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Mary McCleary

Rev. Mary McCleary, PWM

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