

Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

When you judge others, you do not define them, you define yourself.

—Earl Nightingale

When asked to identify the tallest mountain in the world, probably 99 percent of us would answer, “Mount Everest,” so-named for Sir George Everest, British surveyor general of India from 1830 to 1843. It is a good guess because Everest is certainly a well-known peak, and revered by local people in Nepal and Tibet. Its Tibetan name, *Chomolungma*, means “Goddess Mother of the World” or “Goddess of the Valley.” The Sanskrit name *Sagarmatha* means literally “Peak of Heaven.”

But is it the tallest mountain in the world? No.

True, at 29,035 feet, it is the tallest mountain *above sea level*. Yet, the tallest mountain when measured from its base to its peak is Mauna Kea in Hawaii. Above sea level, it is a mere 13,796 feet high. But if you include the 19,700 feet of this dormant volcano below sea level, the title of the world’s tallest peak is not Everest, but Mauna Kea at 33,496 feet. It’s not even close!

Humans are like the Mauna Kea volcano, or like icebergs: We only see a fraction of the real person. We see external features like height, weight, hair color, facial expressions, and smiles, but even “in laughter the heart is sad,” (Proverbs 14:13). We can’t see all of Mauna Kea, but we know that there is more than meets the eye.

We must remember this in our encounters with others. They are more than what we see.

So when we are tempted to judge others, to attribute motives and intentions to their actions, let’s remember that we can’t see most of who they are. This allows us to step back and be respectful, or perhaps, to at least give them the benefit of the doubt.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord Jesus, it is true that sometimes I rush to judgment, when it would have been better to reserve judgment. Help me to remember that people are more than what they present to others to see. In your name. Amen.

*Blessings,
Lisa & Pastor Ben Motz*

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** Mark 14-16
- Monday:** Numbers 1-3
- Tuesday:** Numbers 4-6
- Wednesday:** Numbers 7-10
- Thursday:** Numbers 11-14
- Friday:** Numbers 15-17
- Saturday:** Psalms 29-30

VERSE TO REMEMBER

*Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.* —Psalm 30:5b

**Do you HERE or
HEAR the
DIFFERENCE?**

All answers are homonyms — words that sound the same but are spelled differently. Write the homonym of the word in the space provided. Answers below.

1. TOO _____
2. FOUR _____
3. KNEW _____
4. WHOLE _____
5. HOARSE _____
6. MIGHT _____
7. COURSE _____
8. RIGHT _____
9. SOW _____
10. MALE _____


**Answers to Do you
HERE or HEAR the
Difference?**

1. two, to
2. fore, for
3. new
4. hole
5. horse
6. mite
7. coarse
8. wright, write
9. so, sew
10. mail

CRYPTOQUOTE
To climb steep hills
requires a slow pace
at first.

Cryptoquote

HSZPVHKVZIV
SHAKESPEARE



In this puzzle, one letter stands for another. Here, Z is used for two A's; V is used for three E's; and H is used for two S's. Single letters, the length and formation of the words, and the fact that A=Z, V=E and H=S are all hints. See if you can decipher this quotation from William Shakespeare.

g l x o r n y h g v v k s r o o h

i v j f r i v h z h o l d k z x v z g

u r i h g .

[Use this area for scratch writing.]

