

## **National Junior High Sunday 2020**

*“Take the Log Out” based on Matthew 7:3-5*

### **Invitation to Give**

by Shannon McNeil

Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount provides a foundational teaching of Christian discipleship. Of these teachings we are told to avoid judging, criticizing, belittling, or condemning our brethren. In every case, we are called to remove the log from our own eyes first! We must examine our own hearts, intentions, and transgressions before correcting someone else. Instead of condemning others, we are to share one another’s burdens. In this way, we are giving of ourselves to assist others and to love our neighbors.

In what other ways are we called to give of ourselves? We can give a portion of what God has provided to us in order to sustain the ministry of the church. In remembering God’s love, Jesus’ sacrifice, and our commitment, we can show our gratitude in joyful giving. The Holy Spirit helps us examine our intentions and prepare our hearts to generously give of ourselves. May we share our blessings with this congregation and, in turn, bless our neighbors.