

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Friday 15th September 2023

By Revd Kit Gunasekera

Bramble



The other day, I was disconcerted to see a massive bramble, on our side of the driveway, growing through our next door neighbour's bush! I hadn't spotted it at all, and suddenly there it was! I don't like brambles, specially large ones as they remind me of snakes I encountered a few times in Sri Lanka, once playing cricket! I also don't like dealing with them, (Brambles, not snakes, I wouldn't dream of dealing with a snake except to run a mile!) because no matter what gloves I wear, I always get pricked by them!

For some reason, it reminded me of Jesus once teaching about not judging others:
"Do not judge, or you too will be judged. 2 For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

3 "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? 4 How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first

take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

- Matthew 7:1-5

Coming from a background in carpentry, He used an example from that. I suppose, He could also have said, "first take the Bramble out of your own eye and then you will see clearly to remove the small weed from your sister's eye"

The thought of a massive Bramble growing out of my eye is hideous. I suppose that is the point!