

The blame game

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Congress is doing an excellent job of exhibiting our national consciousness.

The Blame Game is played out nationally and individually. The cards read: "It's not my fault.... I can't do anything about this.... if they would only.... it's not my responsibility..... they started it...."

All too often in our lives we refuse to play the hand we are dealt. When the ball is in our court, we drop the ball.

Two questions: Why should we be surprised about what is not being taken care of in Washington? What are we not taking care of right in our own lives, our homes?

Jesus was straightforward in his teaching about taking care of what you are given. No blame game here. His story in Matthew 25:14-30 illustrates the consequences of both responsibility and irresponsibility; those who make use of God's gifts and those who do not.

A master gave three of his servants money to use before he went away. When he came back, two had worked to double the money. The third did nothing. To the resourceful servants, the master said, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things, come share your master's happiness."

For the one who did nothing, the master demanded the money back. "For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. And throw that worthless servant outside into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

We cannot afford the blame game. May we examine ourselves and hold ourselves accountable. May we pray for our leaders to do the same. When the ball is in our court, we need to play it.

Oh, Lord, heal our nation. Give our leaders wisdom and accountability. We boldly ask that you help us to become a part of the answer, a part of your will for our lives and our country. Amen.