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### IT'S A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE

For Powell River it was quite the traffic jam. There were at least half a dozen cars waiting their turn at a four-way stop. Three cars had to pull over at the scream of an ambulance siren and on top of that, our airport waiting room was jammed with travellers and visitors. In the course of less than an hour, two flights departed, and several arrived. Even as passengers were boarding those two planes, more people arrived to meet yet another incoming flight. I've never seen that many people at the airport at one time! Oh yes, there was also the medical emergency team standing by to transfer the patient who'd arrived in that ambulance we met earlier. To call that a traffic jam could be construed as a joke if you compare our tiny CYPW to Vancouver's YVR or the even bigger Atlanta, Georgia ATL airports but really, it's a matter of perspective.

A correct perspective is essential if one is to make a correct assumption or decision. For example, in a lot of small prairie towns flood damage is devastating. Speaking with a friend this week I learned that more than a dozen homes in their village have been swamped by the incessant rains. Not many, you say? Perhaps knowing that the population of that village is fractionally over 700 will put the scope of the devastation in a different light. Mere numbers are meaningless without knowing what they represent.

Judging others without a godly perspective is even more unjust. Shyness often is misinterpreted as arrogance while insecurity sometimes is masked by loud or aggressive behaviour. We misinterpret when we don't understand; we criticize when we ought to pray.

"Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven" (John 6:37)