

Kingdom Living

Studies From The Sermon On The Mount

The Way of Mercy, Discernment, Dependence, and Love

Matthew 7:1–12

Matthew 7:1-12 (NIV)

“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.

6 “Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

7 “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

9 “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

12 So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

1. The Way of Mercy: Do Not Judge (vv. 1-5)

Matthew 7:1–2 (NIV)

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

Kingdom Point 1:

- **Kingdom Living Begins with Mercy**

Galatians 6:1 (NIV)

Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted.

- **Kingdom living starts with mercy, not measurement.**

2. The Way of Wisdom: Exercise Discernment (v. 6)

Matthew 7:6a (NIV)

“Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs.”

Kingdom Point 2:

- **Kingdom Living Requires Wisdom**
 - Discernment maintains purity in our witness and guards our hearts, allowing mercy to be wise instead of wasteful.

3. The Way of Dependence: Ask, Seek, Knock (vv. 7-11)

Matthew 7:7 (NIV)

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.”

Kingdom Point 3:

- **Kingdom Living Flows from Trust**
 - God gives what's *good*, not always what's *asked*.

4. The Way of Love: The Golden Rule (v. 12)

Matthew 7:12 (NIV)

“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.”

Main Point 4:

- **Kingdom Living Is Love in Action**
 - The Golden Rule turns conflict into compassion and differences into opportunities for grace.

In these twelve verses, Jesus outlines a relational blueprint for kingdom living:

Relationship

With others

With truth

With God

With all people

Command

“Do not judge”

“Do not cast pearls”

“Ask, seek, knock”

“Do unto others”

Principle

Live with mercy

Walk with discernment

Depend through prayer

Act in love

Kingdom Living Involves:

- **Mercy without Compromise**
- **Dependence without Desperation**
- **Love without Limits**
- **Practicing Kingdom Living Every Day**

Kingdom living is not about outward behavior but inward transformation expressed in everyday relationships.

- Mercy keeps us humble.
- Discernment keeps us wise.
- Prayer keeps us dependent.
- Love keeps us aligned with God's heart.

Key Thought: "The measure of kingdom maturity is not how much we know, but how well we love."