

James - Practical Living

10 - To Judge, or NOT to Judge!?

09:55 am **5 Min. Count Down - VIDEO**

10:00 am ****LIVE Worship –**

10:25 am ****LIVE In House Welcome –**

WELCOME to The Peak CC

Welcome our Church Online Platform –

We are so glad you could join us as we worship the Lord & expound on His Word.

If this is your 1st time or perhaps you've been with us before but haven't engaged... Please fill out

***Online Connect Card * -> RightNow Media**

10:30 AM ****Announcements Video** - Tithing

10:32am LIVE SHOT – Welcome - Pastor *Self Intro* -

NEXT-GEN: 9am Sundays @ Balcony - Caring for the Hungry & Homeless - Jan Peak
- Blessing Bag Assembly & distribution.

Sunday School: 1st things 1st 9am Sundays 2nd floor.

Life Groups Home Groups 7pm Mon Nights - 7/3/2023 - Sam Awuku

Men's Fellowship 8:30 am 1st & 3rd Saturday - Lynn's Move

True North Youth Ranch - HAY DRIVE - Program Thursday

VIDEO - Sermon Bump / Intro *The Book of James

What I was in “Upstate University”

I remember a trend that took off after Tupac released his song “ Only God Can Judge me” - Tattoos



License to sin? Life of lawlessness? G status for real... Billy Bang Bang... my boy got the stencil & then got the exact same one...



**I remember thinking... “That weird” like “why would he?”... & then I realized....
*I’m judging him...***

Last week the Message Title was “L’eggo My Ego” - * App Plug - *notes*

Mentioned PRIDE

Selfishness, Self-Centeredness, Ego, & PRIDE

Pr 3:34

**Surely He scorns the scornful,
But gives grace to the humble.**

**God resists the proud,
But gives grace to the humble.”**

Jas 4:11–12 NKJV

Do Not Judge a Brother

11 Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. 12 There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?

ONLY GOD CAN JUDGE ME!

Jas 4:11–12. NLT

Warning against Judging Others

11 Don't speak evil against each other, dear brothers and sisters. If you criticize and judge each other, then you are criticizing and judging God's law. But your job is to obey the law, not to judge whether it applies to you. 12 God alone, who gave the law, is the Judge. He alone has the power to save or to destroy. So what right do you have to judge your neighbor?

This is clearly discussing slandering or defaming. Not necessarily forbidding the confrontation of sin... We are actually COMMANDED to do that..

Eph 4:30–32. NKJV

30 And do not *grieve* the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice (*motives*). 32 And be kind to one another, *tenderhearted*, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

Why are we so quick to judge others, & yet FAIL to judge ourselves?

Why do we do such a lousy job separating believers, (so called followers of Christ) vs. The UNREDEEMED?

We want to hold the world to the standard of Christ while “We Ourselves” are unable to keep it.

Listen to the Words of Jesus Himself..... Who by the way ... *Is The Law Giver & the Judge*

Mt 7:1–5

NKJV

“Judge not, that you be not judged. 2 For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. 3 And why do you look at the speck in your brother’s eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me remove the speck from your eye’; and look, a plank is in your own eye? 5 Hypocrite! *First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.*

Judge NOT. What Jesus means by judge is to take offense at another person’s actions, words, & or expressions. Do not keep track of the wrongs of another. Do not judge another person’s behavior or attitude to see if they are morally wrong and you are morally superior. This attitude is often called judgmentalism. It is the silent and sometimes not so silent condemnation of other people and their own behaviors.

The reason why Christ teaches not to judge is because the Opposite of the MERCY principle also applies. *Do not judge so that you will not be judged. For in the way you judge, you will be judged.*

As those who show mercy will receive mercy, so will those who judge receive judgment in the way they judge others.

Jesus continues, and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you. We will all be measured and judged according to our own judgment and standard of measure. If we want a lenient measure of mercy, we should be merciful.

Jesus employs HUMOR & exaggeration to illustrate a point..



Explain the difference between.....

There is a situational irony that the one who has the highly visible moral log is judging the brother with a nearly invisible moral speck.

It is fake righteousness to make fussy demands of others, *before examining our own problems.* Jesus is likely referencing another principle: *we most readily see our own sins in other people.* Whatever bothers us most in others likely shows us our own faults. If we can't stand someone who is arrogant, it likely means we ourselves are arrogant.

This principle can be applied by saying “*When someone else bothers me, I need to look inward and deal with my own fault; I wouldn't be bugged if I didn't have that fault myself.*”

Jesus has now redirected our focus from “fixing others” to “dealing with our own issues.”

However, once we have adequately dealt with our own issues, Jesus wants us to help others.

After dealing with your own issues, Jesus tells His disciples that *then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.*

Jesus doesn't want us to let others walk around with faults. But we won't really see the faults properly, until we deal with our own sin, and recognize we are a fellow traveler, who suffers from the same faults.

Bear and Share the Burdens

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, ***YOU*** *who are spiritual* restore such a one in a spirit of ***gentleness***, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

So here is what I do.... addressing “Believers”... When I see a behavior pattern developing, I 1st examine myself and seek/search, Am I dealing with this issue right now?? “If” the answer is YES.... I fall back, & goto God... I pray for the individual, & I pray for myself.

If I see the patterns continue to develop, & I'm able to rectify my own issues... I then pray again that God will till the ground of thor heart to receive my correction in LOVE. & when I approach, I enter as one who is STILL carrying the humility of his own load. Just cause I'm “The Pastor” doesn't exempt me from the same brokenness & or temptations.

“there but for the grace of God go I”

dated back into the 1700's w/ some attributions to John Bradford, an English Reformer, who watched people led to execution for their crimes.

In a sense he was saying, “That could have been me but for God’s grace.”

That saying, “*there but for the grace of God go I*”, is an antidote to judgmentalism.

When we see someone who is down and out, who is suffering hardship, or who is reaping unpleasant consequences, we can respond in two basic ways. We can say, “He deserves it and should have made better choices,” or we can say, “There but for the grace of God go I.” The first response is what Job’s three friends ultimately chose; the second response shows empathy as we acknowledge the kindness of God toward us and extend that kindness to the one in trouble.

1 Pe 2:1–3 NKJV

Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, 2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

Have YOU “Tasted” the Lord’s Graciousness?

CALL TO ACTION

The Lord says draw near unto Him... & He'll draw near unto you... It's up to YOU to make that move... Are you ready to be set free?

Would you give me an opportunity to pray for you right now? This altar is open.. for you..

Closing Prayer

**“The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you,
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.”**

I bless you in the Name of the Father, & of the SON, & of the Holy Spirit... Amen!!

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jas 4:11–12.

Tyndale House Publishers, Holy Bible: New Living Translation (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 2015), Jas 4:11–12.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ga 6:1–2.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Eph 4:30–32.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 1 Pe 2:1–3

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Mt 7:1–5.