



“Framed by Love”

1 John 5:16-17

Perfect Love: The Book of 1 John

1 John 5:16a – “If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask and God will for him give life to those who commit sin not leading to death.”

Matthew 7:1 - “Judge not, that you not be judged.”

“The idea that Jesus forbade followers to judge is a myth...Refusing to make judgments or call sin, sin, is not what Jesus asks us to do...If we were forbidden to make moral and spiritual judgements, we would have no objective way to distinguish between truth and error.”

—Larry Osborne, 10 Dumb Things Smart Christians Believe

1.) Start with love.

Matthew 7:3 – “Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?”

Matthew 7:4 – “Or how can you say to your brother, “Let me take the speck out of your eye,” when there is the log in your own eye.”

Matthew 7:5 – “You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.”

Matthew 7:6 - “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs...”

Matthew 7:20 - “Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.”

2.) Judge with love.

Judge: To form an opinion or conclusion about something.

Judgmental: to have or display an excessively critical point of view.

1 John 5:16b – “There is sin leading to death; I do not say he should make a request for this.”

Genesis 19:15-16 – “As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city.” But he lingered. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city.”

3.) Correct with love.

“We don’t believe something by merely saying we believe it, or even when we believe that we believe it. We believe something when we act as if it were true.”

—Dallas Willard

1 John 5:17 – “All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin that does not lead to death.”

Ephesians 4:15 – “Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.”

4.) Speak the truth with love.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 – “Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.”

“One of the first signs of legalism is a heightened emphasis on the implications of Scripture rather than the explicit commands of Scripture...The moment my personal application of the implications of Scripture becomes the lens through which I judge others, something has gone terribly wrong.” –Larry Osborne, Accidental Pharisees

Rom 14:5b – “Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind.”

Romans 14:10 – “You then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God’s judgment seat.”

Romans 14:19 – “So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up.”

1 Corinthians 8:1b – “But while knowledge makes us feel important, it is love that strengthens the church.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What did you find new, helpful, or confusing about today’s message?
2. In what ways is judging loving?
 - a. In what ways can judging be not loving?
3. Why do you think so many people say, “Jesus said not to judge”?
4. Is it easy or difficult for you to judge others properly? Why?
5. How do you know when you are judging properly versus being judgmental?
6. What are some practical ways you can stand against sin while still being loving?