

Matthew 6:25-34

Perhaps you have experienced the condemning eye of someone who disapproves of you. In Jesus time, the Scribes and Pharisees, who were the religious rulers, had developed their own standard of religion and morality. They were quick to pass judgement on others based on what they saw, without regard to their own hearts. For the Lord, the only just judge, looks at our hearts.

"Judge not, that you be not judged. ² For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. 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? 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? 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.

⁶ "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

Matthew 7:1-6

Jesus tells us not to judge other believers. Instead, we are to examine our own hearts. Then, once our own sight is clear, we can gently restore our fellow believers.

Discussion Questions

- What does it mean to judge someone?
- What reason does Jesus give to encourage us not to judge?
- How can we examine our own hearts? (2 Cor 13:5, Psalm 139:23-24)
- In what ways can we help our fellow believers with their speck? (Galatians 6:1, 1 Thess. 5:14)
- How can we respond when we are judged by non believers (or by believers)?

Prayer

Break up into smaller groups for prayer.

- Who are you praying for to know Jesus?
- What gospel conversations have you had this week with someone who doesn't follow Jesus?
- How is your time with God?
- What are you praying for?
- What are you struggling with?