

WOMEN IN THE WORD FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT Scripture Reference Notes – April 14, 2026 Week 10: A New Vision for Relationships

Judging others
Sharing wisely
Praying with persistence
Expecting good gifts from the Father
Practicing the Golden Rule

Matthew 7: 1-5

Judge not, that you not be judged. For with the judgement you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is your own eye. Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is a log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye."

The Hebrew root for "to judge" (*shaphot*):

Goes beyond a verdict in a court of law. It includes governing, to defend, protect, vindicate, or decide between. It appears over two hundred times in the Old Testament. God is often referred to as the ultimate.

Genesis 18:25b - "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just."

The Greek word "krino" can mean to separate or distinguish, making a judgement, positive or negative, to pick out, to be of opinion, to judge.

Paul David Tripp: "There's never a time when we are not thinking, interpreting, and seeking to make sense of something, someone, yourself, God, or some circumstance."

John 7:24 - "Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgement."

Proverbs 21:2 - “Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the heart.”

Isaiah 33:22a - “For the LORD is our judge: the LORD is our lawgiver.”

James 4:11-12 - “Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor.”

Robert Williamson Jr.: “If Jesus is to be believed, (and of course Jesus should be believed), God follows our lead when it comes to judgement. If we judge others harshly, God will judge us harshly. But if we refrain from judging others, God will refrain from judging us. God judges with the judgments we make. God measures out what we measure out to others.”

Matthew 18:15 - “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.”

Hyperbole: an extreme exaggeration used for emphasis, humor or to display intense emotion.

D. A. Carson – Book: Jesus’ Sermon on The Mount and His Confrontation with the World

Romans 2:1 - “Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgement on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things.”

Hypocrite: A moral failure. It is often described in psychology as failing to follow one’s own expressed moral rules.

Wiersbe: “The Pharisees saw the sins of other people but would not look at their own sins.”

Robert Wilkin: “How could the Pharisees with such a distorted spiritual vision, hope to help others in their plight? They would end up doing more damage than good.”

Psalm 139:23 - “Search me, oh God, and know my heart. Try me and know my thoughts!”

Tony Evans: “When you’ve addressed your own sin, you’ll be more understanding compassionate and righteous in your own assessments and better able to help a brother address his sin.”

Matthew 7:6 - “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before the pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.”

Mark 16:15 - “And he said to them, ‘Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.’”

Matthew 28:19 - “Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Proverbs 23:9 - “Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, for he will despise the good sense of your words.”

Wiersbe: Notes, that in Luke 23, “Even Jesus refused to talk to Herod because he wasn’t a sincere seeker of the Truth.”

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

Jeremiah 29:13 - “You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-17 - “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing.”

James 4:2b-3 - You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and you do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.”

Tony Evans: “Show me a person experiencing the life of Christ, and I’ll show you someone who prays with power and confidence that God will come through.”

Luke 18:1 - “And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.”

Moody: “His own elect should pray consistently, persistently, and expectantly. For those who pray this way answers will come. When they come, they will be understood as having come right on time.”

Matthew 7:9-11 - “Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!”

Psalms 84:11 - “For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.”

Romans 8:32 - “He who did not spare His own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things.”

Robert Wilkin: “God will respond out of love with only good gifts though it may not be what’s expected.”

Proverbs 3:5-6 - “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make straight your paths.”

Matthew 7:12 - “So, whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

Mark Moore: “The negative of this rule, sometimes called the “Silver Rule” is frequently found in religious literature. Even Confucius said “Do not do unto others what you do not want done to yourselves. And the great Jewish Rabbi, Hillel said, “What is hateful to you, do not do to anyone else. This is the whole law and all the rest is commentary.”

Matthew 22:37-40 - “And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Evans: “All God’s commands are included in the first and second greatest commands. Fulfill these, through Christ and you’ll fulfill them all.”

Wiersbe: “Practicing the Golden Rule releases the love of God in our lives and enables us to help others, even those who want to hurt us.”

Luke 6:30-31 - “Give to everyone who begs from you, and from the one who takes away your goods, do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.”

Study Book: “The Golden Rule is one way in which Jesus demonstrates that His message does not contradict the Old Testament but fulfills it. Jesus has come to create a kingdom filled with forgiven and transformed sinners who not merely agree with the Golden Rule but begin to embody it.”

Points to Ponder:

- Judge others fairly with a spirit of love and gentleness, as we humbly examine our own shortcomings.
- Continue to share the Gospel and minister to others by the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit.
- Persistently pursue the Lord through prayer. Trust that as we, “Ask, Seek and Knock,” answers will come.
- Believe with all of our hearts that God is GOOD and He will only give us what is good for us.
- As we live out the Golden Rule, let’s take ourselves out of the equation and simply love others, “because He first loved us.” 1 John 4:19b.

Next Lesson – April 21
Week 11 – Two Ways and Two Trees