

9/4/2022

Twisted – “Only God Can Judge Me”

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged.” Matthew 7:1 (NIV)

Twisted- “You can’t tell me I’m wrong.”

Matthew 7:1 often used as a **STUN GUN...A FREEZE RAY**

Sometimes people say...

“That’s right...I can’t judge...I can’t tell someone else what’s right or wrong...who am I to judge?”

Let me show you why that’s Twisted...

- Example...Parent: “Don’t play ball in the street.”
Child: “You can’t tell me what to do...you can’t judge me.”
- Example...Employer: “Arrive at work at 8:30 am.”
Employee: “You can’t tell me what to do...you can’t judge me.”
- Example...Church: “God’s word tells us what is right and wrong.”
Culture: “I have my own standard for right and wrong....
you can’t judge me.”

1. Defining the Terms

- **Judgement**: the ability to make decisions and come to sensible conclusions; discernment
- **Judgmental**: to display an excessively critical point of view; condemning, nitpicking, finding fault

2. Don’t Be **JUDGMENTAL** (Condemning)

“Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged. And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own? How can you think of saying to your friend, ‘Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,’ when you can’t see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye.” *Matthew 7:1-5 (NLT)*

- **Hypocrisy** is looking at the speck in another’s eye while ignoring the log in your own eye.
- **Integrity** is removing the log from your eye.
- **Mercy** is helping remove the speck from another’s eye.

Tom Holladay, Saddleback Church

How can I tell if I'm being Judgmental?

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Condemning• Avoid thinking of my faults by focusing on other's faults | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gossipy• No Sympathy for the other person | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feeling superior• No concern for the wellbeing of the other person |
|--|--|---|

3. Use **GOOD JUDGEMENT**.

*“Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead **judge correctly**.” John 7:24 (NIV)*

*“I meant that you are not to associate with anyone who claims to be a believer yet indulges in sexual sin, or is greedy, or worships idols, or is abusive, or is a drunkard, or cheats people. Don't even eat with such people. It isn't my responsibility to judge outsiders, but it certainly is **your responsibility** to judge those inside the church who are sinning. God will judge those on the outside; but as the Scriptures say, ‘You must remove the evil person from among you.’” 1 Corinthians 5:11-13 (NLT)*

How can I tell if I'm using Good Judgement?

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consistent with God's Word• Want the best for the other person | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Genuine concern for the other person• Aware of my own faults (repentance) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Humility |
|---|--|--|

4. What Happens When There Is “Moral Ambiguity”?

Moral Ambiguity: a lack of certainty whether something is right or wrong.

*“In those days Israel had no king; **all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes**.” Judges 21:25 (NLT)*

Example: It's like when a 7th grade substitute teacher walks out of the classroom for a few minutes!

5. Stand **STRONG**. **BE KIND**.

*“Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to **defend the faith** that God has entrusted once for all time to His holy people.” Jude 3 (NLT)*

*“...Always **be prepared** to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with **gentleness and respect**...” 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)*

Bottom Line

<p>Don't be JUDGMENTAL (condemning); but use GOOD JUDGEMENT (discerning right from wrong). STAND STRONG for what's right...and be NICE about it.</p>
--

Keep the Conversation going...

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. Think about a time when you were treated unjustly or were misjudged? When have you misjudged someone by mistake?
2. What areas are you most likely to be judgmental of someone else (e.g., finances, work, health, spiritual disciplines, parenting, marriage, emotions, etc.)?
3. Do you need to have integrity (removing the log from your own eye) or mercy (helping remove the speck from another's eye) this week? If so, how will you show integrity or mercy?