

DO NOT JUDGE: BUILDING BLOCK #1

Pastor Chad Gilligan | April 16, 2023

I. BUILT TO LAST

Matthew 7:1 Do not judge, or you too will be judged.

A. Building Block #1: Do Not Judge, Or You Too Will Be Judged

B. What foundation will you have?

- Will you build on a critical foundation?
- Will you build on a humble foundation?

Luke 18:9-14 To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable:¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector.¹² I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’¹³ “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’¹⁴ “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

II. A CRITICAL FOUNDATION

A. First, Be Critical of Others

B. Then, Feel Good About Yourself

C. Finally, Thank God For Agreeing With You

Look at Jesus model...

- God
 - Self
 - Others

Matthew 7:2 For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

III. A HUMBLE FOUNDATION

A. *First, Let God Be the Judge*

James 4:11-12 Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. ¹² There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbor?

- **God is the Judge, not you.**

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.

- **You will be judged in the same way you judge others.**

1 Corinthians 4:4-5 My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵ Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart. At that time each will receive their praise from God.

- **God's mercy to you helps you show mercy to others.**

James 2:12-13 (NLT) So whatever you say or whatever you do, remember that you will be judged by the law that sets you free. ¹³ There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you.

Matthew 7:3-5 Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, "Let me take the speck out of your eye," when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

B. *Then, Take A Good Look At Yourself*

- **Worry more about your plank than their sawdust.**

Romans 14:13 Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister.

1 Corinthians 11:31 But if we were more discerning with regard to ourselves, we would not come under such judgment.

- **You can't see clearly until you have taken a look at yourself.**

- **When you see yourself clearly, you can see others more clearly.**

Matthew 7:15-20 Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. ¹⁶ By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

Matthew 7:6 Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

Nehemiah 6:2-3 Sanballat and Geshem sent me this message: "Come, let us meet together in one of the villages on the plain of Ono." But they were scheming to harm me; ³ so I sent messengers to them with this reply: "I am carrying on a great project and cannot go down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and go down to you?"

Proverbs 9:8 Do not rebuke mockers or they will hate you; rebuke the wise and they will love you.

- **A critical spirit can keep you from seeing God clearly.**

Matthew 7:5 You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

C. Finally, Be A Blessing to Others Instead of a Critic

- **You may try to give the impression of being a helper when you are really just being a critic.**

- **You have a responsibility to help one another.**

Galatians 6:1-2 Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. ² Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Matthew 7:1 Do not judge, or you too will be judged.

- **When you have a critical spirit, you build on an unstable foundation.**

- **When you have a humble spirit, you build on a stable foundation.**