



SERMON ON THE **MOUNT**

**“The Danger of
Being Judgmental”
Matthew 7:1-5**

**¹“Do not judge, so that you will not be judged. ²For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with what measure you measure, it will be measured to you. ³And why do you look at the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ and behold, the log is in your own eye? ⁵You 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 7:1-5**

Introduction

A. “Judge not, lest ye be judged” is certainly one of the most well-known and quoted verses in the twenty-first century.

B. And while often quoted, it is also often misunderstood and misapplied.

C. Did Jesus mean we should never evaluate a person’s actions or judge someone’s behavior? Simply reading the Sermon on the Mount proves this is NOT what He was saying.

Introduction

D. In chapter 6 Jesus repeatedly called the scribes and Pharisees “hypocrites” (6:2, 5, 16). Throughout the Gospel of Matthew Jesus calls the scribes and Pharisees “hypocrites” (15:7; 22:18; 23:1-2, 13, 14, 15, 23, 25, 27, 29).

Introduction

E. In Matthew 7:6 Jesus refers to people as “dogs” and “swine.” In Matthew 7:15 Jesus warns us of “false prophets” who show up in sheep’s clothing but are actually ravenous wolves. In Matthew 7:20 He says we will know them by their fruits.

Introduction

F. As we examine these verses it is critical we keep before us the theme of the Sermon on the Mount: Kingdom Living in a Fallen World.

G. Kingdom citizens (5:1-16) demonstrate kingdom righteousness (5:17-48), practice kingdom religion (6:1-34), and exercise kingdom judgment (7:1-29).

Introduction

H. Big Idea: Kingdom citizens are to exercise biblical judgment without being judgmental.

I. Be Careful How You Judge Others (7:1-2)

¹“Do not judge, so that you will not be judged.

²For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with what measure you measure, it will be measured to you.

Matthew 7:1-2

I. Be Careful How You Judge Others (7:1-2)

A. The raw truth is we all make judgments every day of our lives.

B. Jesus is NOT teaching us NOT to judge anyone. To the contrary, Jesus teaches us to judge others on the basis of the Word of God.

C. The problem Jesus is addressing here is a self-righteous, judgmental spirit.

I. Be Careful How You Judge Others (7:1-2)

D. The scribes and Pharisees set themselves up as everyone's judges and they judged everyone according to their own standards.

E. We cannot condone sin, but we're not the final judge.

F. People don't have to give an account to you for how they live according to your standards.

²¹“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.

Matthew 7:21

I. Be Careful How You Judge Others (7:1-2)

G. Everyone will give an account to God based on His standard. (Matthew 7:21)

H. We're in a dangerous place when we judge ourselves and others with our own personal standards.

I. If we set up our own standards, we tend to set up what we can achieve. We always look better to ourselves. Other people, not so much.

¹Now accept the one who is weak in faith, but not for the purpose of passing judgment on opinions. ²One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables only. ³The one who eats must not view the one who does not eat with contempt, and the one who does not eat must not judge the one who eats, for God accepted him. ⁴Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

Romans 14:1-4

I. Be Careful How You Judge Others (7:1-2)

J. The Word of God puts us all on level ground. (Romans 14:1-4)

K. What's your measure? How do you measure yourself? How do you measure other people?

L. We don't get to make the rules. We can have opinions and preferences but we cannot impose them as laws upon others.

I. Be Careful How You Judge Others (7:1-2)

M. Every judgment we make is to be based on the Word of God. Be careful how you judge others.

N. Jesus is teaching us that the judgment of God on our lives will be based on "how our hearts expressed themselves in thoughts and acts toward others" (Sinclair Ferguson).

II. Deal with Your Own Sins First (7:3-5a)

³And why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye? ⁵You 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 7:1-5

II. Deal with Your Own Sins First (7:3-5a)

A. Before you can help a brother or sister deal with sin in their life, you must first deal with sin in your own life.

**B. "Verse 3 clarifies that the topic under discussion is the judgment of one's 'brother.' This suggests that Jesus was treating a Christian's judgment and correction of others within the Christian community"
(Chuck Quarles).**

II. Deal with Your Own Sins First (7:3-5a)

C. If you have a log in your eye, you're not qualified to judge anyone else.

D. We see the sins of others easier than we see our own. I can see the speck in your eye while not even noticing the log in my own eye.

E. "You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye."

II. Deal with Your Own Sins First (7:3-5a)

F. A hypocrite is an actor. They act as if they care about righteousness, but if they really cared about righteousness they would deal with their own sins first.

G. If you don't judge your own sins, you're a hypocrite.

H. 1 John 1:8-10

⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

1 John 1:8-10

III. Seek to Restore Your Sinning Brother (7:5b)

⁵You 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 7:1-5

III. Seek to Restore Your Sinning Brother (7:5b)

A. “And then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.”

B. As you consistently deal with your own sins, repenting of your sins and confessing your sins to the Lord, you are able to see the sins in others more clearly.

C. Love others enough to confront their sins.

III. Seek to Restore Your Sinning Brother (7:5b)

D. If you deal with your sins, you can help others deal with their sins.

E. “Brothers, even if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, each of you looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted” (Galatians 6:1).

III. Seek to Restore Your Sinning Brother (7:5b)

F. “Go confront the sins of others as a physician, not as a judge” (John Chrysostom).

G. Matthew 18:15-18

¹⁵“Now if your brother sins , go and show him his fault, between you and him alone; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.

¹⁶But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that **BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY FACT MAY BE CONFIRMED. ¹⁷And if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as the Gentile and the tax collector.**

¹⁸Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.

Matthew 18:15-18

III. Seek to Restore Your Sinning Brother (7:5b)

F. “Go confront the sins of others as a physician, not as a judge” (John Chrysostom).

G. Matthew 18:15-18

H. You who are spiritual, seek to restore your sinning brother.

Conclusion

A. Have you ever been convicted to see your sin as an offense to a holy and righteous God?

B. Have you ever come to God and asked Him to remove the massive log of sin in your own eye?

C. Have you come to see Christ as the spiritual Physician who can remove the log from your eye and give you spiritual sight?

Conclusion

D. Are you willing to own your personal standard to measure yourself and others or is the Word of God the standard you use?

E. Do you first examine your own thoughts before trying to “help” others?

F. When was the last time you were wrong and received the correction of Scripture?

The gospel is the good news that the just and gracious God of the universe looked upon hopelessly sinful people and sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, God in human flesh, to bear His wrath against sin on the cross and to show His power over sin in the resurrection so that everyone who turns from their sin (repentance) and believes in Him (faith) will be reconciled to God forever.

Conclusion

G. When was the last time you prayed and confessed specific sins? (1 John 1:9)

H. The Gospel Definition

I. How do you need to respond today?