



Lesson #10: Life Lessons About Judging (7:1-6)

Last week in our study though the Sermon on the Mount we listened as Jesus taught us about our propensity to have a negative attitude to our _____ affairs (Worry). Today, we will listen as our Lord deals with our propensity to have a negative attitude about _____ affairs (Judging). Jesus points to a bad habit all too characteristic in our human race, and instructs us to not be hasty in making negative judgements of other people.

We turned this morning to what is no doubt the most frequently _____ and most crassly _____ text in all of the Bible. How often do we hear the phrase, “Judge not that you be not judged”? Let’s understand from the very outset of this message that Matthew 7:1 was not placed in the Bible to be a debate _____. Christ is clearly cautioning us in this text that we would not be hyper-sensitive spiritual critics. After all, those who are most harshly _____ are those who most harshly _____ others.

DON'T JUDGE _____ (7:1-2)

Let’s look into this text and see what this text _____ and _____ mean.

A. It does not mean Christians should never _____ others

The same Jesus who said “Judge not” in Matthew 7 says in John 7:24, “_____ righteous judgement.” Is that a contradiction? What does Matthew 7:1 mean?

1. It does not mean that a believer should never judge another person’s _____ (1 John 4:1-3)
2. It does not mean that a believer should never judge another person’s _____ (Matthew 7:15-16; 21)

B. It does mean that Christians will be _____ the same way they judge others

There is a _____ to be found in verse 2. Those who so readily pass judgement on their peers will find similar judgement being passed upon them. The standard by which you judge you will be judged.

DON'T JUDGE _____ (7:3-4)

Remember: A _____ without a _____ is a _____! This text is part of the Sermon on the Mount. Note the pattern Jesus is now in to help us understand the proper context.

- 6:1 “Take heed that ye do not your _____ before men, to be seen of them.”
- 6:5 “And when thou _____, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are.”
- 6:16 “Moreover when ye _____, be not as they hypocrites.”

You see the pattern that is so clearly at work in these passages.

- 1) Some people _____ hypocritically (6:1)
- 2) Some people _____ hypocritically (6:5)
- 3) Some people _____ hypocritically (6:16)
- 4) Some people _____ hypocritically (7:3-4)

Matthew 7 is not a caution against all spiritual judgement. Matthew 7 is a caution against _____ judgement! Jesus is not saying, “Don’t judge!” Jesus is saying, “Don’t judge hypocritically!”

DON'T JUDGE _____ (7:5-6)

A. There must be holy _____ in dealing with _____ (v. 5)

Be willing to deal with your own problems before you deal with the problems of others. You better never enter into a moment where you are trying to counsel or challenge or exhort someone without first thinking carefully and prayerfully about your own standing before God.

B. There must be holy _____ when dealing with _____ (v. 6)

Disciples are not called to keep offering to those who continue to reject.

- Jesus taught all sorts of people generously, but before _____ He refused to say a word (Luke 23:9)
- Paul preached to the Jews in Corinth for a time, but in the face of persistent _____ and hostility he turned away (Acts 18:5-7)

Things of value will not be appreciated by dogs and pigs. What is precious is not be given to people that don’t appreciate it. This principle is why _____, Himself, did not do miracles for unbelievers (Matthew 13:48).

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

“It’s God’s job to judge; it’s my job to _____.” Have you ever heard that phrase? It definitely sounds good; in fact, it sounds very biblical. The truth from this passage is clear, however: **It’s God’s job to judge those _____ the church; it’s my job to judge those _____ the church.** There is a lack of judgement in our churches today. Actually, let me restate that: there is a lack of _____ judgement in our churches today.