

How to Ruin Relationships And Restore Them God's Way

Lesson Six • Matthew 7:1-5

Be Judgmental

To Judge or Not to Judge?

To ruin relationships, be JUDGMENTAL of people.
To restore relationships, be MERCIFUL toward people.

Jesus On Judging

1. The Command: Don't JUDGE with Superiority!

"Judge not..." Matthew 7:1a ESV

What Did Jesus Mean?

- Jesus did not mean we should avoid making JUDGMENTS. *Matthew 7:6, 13-16*
- Jesus did mean we should avoid being JUDGMENTAL. *Luke 18:9-12*

Jesus On Judging:

You judge someone not when you DISCERN their position,
but when you DISMISS them as a person.

2. The Reason: You Will Be JUDGED Likewise!

"Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you." Matthew 7:1-2 ESV

What Does This Mean?

The judgment one uses is like a BOOMERANG and will come back on the one who judges.

3. The Principle: Judge YOURSELF First!

The Illustration:

"Why do you see the SPECK that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the LOG that is in your own eye?" *Matthew 7:3*

The Explanation:

- Jesus attacks our HYPOCRISY of fault-finding.

"Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye?" Matthew 7:4 ESV

- Jesus insists on INTEGRITY in our lives first.

"You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye," Matthew 7:5a ESV

- Jesus commends MERCY toward one another.

"and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye." Matthew 7:5b ESV

Heart Considerations

- Do you judge others for small faults and allow yourself room for great faults?
- Are you indignant about the sins of others and indifferent to your own sins?
- Do you have a tendency to justify yourself by condemning others or do you sense a need for personal repentance of sin in your own life first?
- Do you correct in light of the way you would want to be corrected if someone were dealing with you for your faults and sins?

The Antidote to Judging: Remember the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Communion

Followers of Jesus Christ (those who trust Christ as Savior and commit to follow Christ as Lord) are invited to participate in Communion located at the four tables in the auditorium. You may take the bread and cup back to your seat. The bread and juice represent the body and blood of Jesus when He died on the Cross and reminds us who our Lord is, what He has done for us, is doing for us, and will yet do for us when He returns. Come, Lord Jesus, come!