



Title: Judging Others

Date: June 26, 2022

Scripture Text: Matthew 7:1-6

Sermon Series: Inside-Out

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We pick back up this week with our study of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount as He instructs us concerning judging others. These verses are often misunderstood. Jesus is not forbidding all judgement. There are examples in scripture when we are responsible for exercising sound, biblical judgement. Instead, this passage is addressing being judgmental, not based on the Bible, but on our own biases or to elevate ourselves in some way. Let's look at two forms of this type of judging.

But first...

- Describe how proper judgment can be effective outside the church.
- What are ways proper judgement can be beneficial within the church?

The goal of proper judgment is reconciliation, not condemnation.

### I. Haughty Judgement is Forbidden (Matthew 7:1-4)

Haughty judgement is birthed by a critical spirit. If someone is looking to find fault, they will find it. No one is perfect. Jesus is saying this is wrong. He forbids haughty judgement for three reasons: ultimate judgement belongs to God ([vs. 1](#)), what goes around comes around ([vs. 2](#)), and personal problems blur vision ([vss. 3-4](#)).

- How would you describe someone who is a 'haughty judge'?
- According to the first reason from [vs. 1](#), to judge others is assuming God's responsibility for judging (in this context, we are determining what is right and wrong). Why is this such a temptation?
- List examples of ways we bring judgement on ourselves when we are judging others ([vs. 2](#))?
- How can our personal problems be a motivator for judging others ([vss. 3-4](#))?
- Describe a time when you judged someone with a haughty/critical attitude?
  - What effect did it have on them and your relationship with them?
- What are practical things you can do to guard your heart against being haughty/critical/fault finding?

## Morningside Church

If you have a need or a prayer request, contact the church office.

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## II. Humble Judgement (Matthew 7:5)

Instead of being motivated by criticism, humble judgment is birthed out of compassion. It is built upon scriptural truths, not personally defined standards. As is stated in [Galatians 6:1](#), we are to come along side someone who has been overtaken by a wrongdoing and restore them with a gentle spirit.

- Describe characteristics of a 'humble judger'.
- How is practicing humble judgement a reflection of spiritual maturity?
- As stated in [Gal. 6:1](#), how do we come along side others with a gentle spirit?
- What does the statement mean "love enough to speak to me, not about me" mean?
  - How is humble judgement a reflection of love?
- What are activities that we can practice to help us be a 'humble judger'?