

**Do Not Judge
Matthew 7:1-6
Authenticity**

(Sermon on the Mount, Part 3)

Intro: Today we are continuing our series in the Sermon on the Mount.

A) **Part 3 – 3rd Section – Authenticity** – Jesus is describing what an Authentic believer looks like!

B) Today we are going to look at something that Jesus said – that is probably the **UNBELIEVERS** – favorite verse in the Bible

C) Most have no idea that it was Jesus who said it – but they love to quote it!

D) Anyone know what **saying I am referring to?** – Loud and Proud

E) DO NOT JUDGE – Christians living in compromise – love to quote this one to – **DON'T JUDGE ME BROTHER!**

Matthew 7

Judge not, that you be not judged. 2 For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. 3 And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? 5 Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye. 6 "Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

Judge not, that you be not judged.

The first thing I want us to consider this morning is What this DOESN'T MEAN? – Miss applied often.

A) This verse does not hinder us from saying that something is wrong!

B) It doesn't mean that we would shouldn't call sin sin!

C) Because then the implication would be that we would be treating **GOOD AND EVIL – THE SAME! - NOT TOLERATION** – no absolutes
D) The Bible warns about that!

Isaiah 5:20 **"Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness."**

E) Living in a world where everything is becoming GRAY!

1) Not RIGHT and wrong – no Absolutes – ALL PREFERENCE!

SIGNS OF THE LAST DAYS

A) People would be turning from the truth – to embrace a lie

B) One of the **biggest LIES TODAY IS** – You can have it your way!

1) Your preference about Sexual orientation – Morality - Etc is entirely up to you!

C) Isaiah said: Woe to those who talk that way!

1) Woe to the nation – that embraces that kind of ideology.

2) Wed night – Why America is on the brink of Judgment – why it has already begun.

D) So this DOES NOT MEAN: Can't call the kettle black – can't call sin a Sin

1) When there is a clear violation of Scripture – **WE MUST CALL IT FOR WHAT IT IS! - WE MUST!!**

2ND Thing – We want to note is WHAT this DOES MEAN!

A) The word judge in the Greek is Krinos - It means TO JUDGE with a ONCE & FOR ALL JUDGMENT!

B) **TO JUDGE TO CONDEMN!**

1) Idea is where you size someone up and WRITE them off!

C) Size them up – UmHm – Write them off!
Umhm -

1) He is done!

See this happens all too often in the body of Christ – **where someone gets labeled! – FLAKE!**

A) HE IS A PROBLEM – SHE IS...

Aa) We in the body of Christ can have **that tendency to LABEL someone** who has made a mistake and never give them an opportunity again!

B) Sometimes we get so **FIXATED** on the mistake or **SIN** - We fail to recognize **THE CHANGE!**

C) We have stuck a label on them that will never be removed!

D) Now having said that – **There are some people that just never change,**

1) They just keep repeating the same patterns over and over again.

E) The thing that we need to understand that Jesus is teaching against is that type of attitude – We draw a conclusion – LABEL a person

1) We have condemned them in our MINDS

3rd thing we want to consider today is Why we shouldn't Judge others in that way?

A) **#1 Who are you to Judge?** – Are you perfect? – Do you not have any faults?

B) Paul wrote in Romans 2
Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

² But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. ³ And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God? ⁴ Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? –

C) **You are not without excuse!** – You have your own issues and problems

1) Paul warned Romans 12:3 – We are not to think too highly of ourselves!

“Surely, if I know myself aright, I need not send my Judgment upon the circuit to try other men; for I can give it full occupation in my own Court of Conscience to try the traitors within my own bosom.” C.H.

Spurgeon

A) Spurgeon saying: I don't need to send the circuit rider in my heart out looking for sin in others - ENOUGH IN ME!

B) IT IS A FULL occupation – full time job – as I look in the mirror and see the things in my own life – that still need to change!

C) Each one of us is a WORK IN PROGRESS!

D) We are all sinners – ALL BROKEN – NONE PERFECT

1) **UNDER CONSTRUCTION – Sweat shirt!**

#2 Another reason we are not to Judge in that way: To condemn

A) Jesus said in V.2 The way you judge is the way others will judge you!

B) **Story of Mike Nelsons Dad** – 1950's in the South –**Doing what I taught them!- Hate divorced people**

C) Parents: What are we teaching our kids – as they listen to us – giving our opinions!

D) Leaders what are we teaching those who are following our lead – in the way we treat others!

Why we shouldn't Judge others in that way?

#1 Who are you

#2 The way you judge is the way you will be judged in return.

#3 We are called to Reconciliation:

A) God is into Reconciliation – Jesus' MISSION – the Cross – Reconcile sinful Man to a Holy GOD!

B) A SINLESS SACRIFICE!

C) Calls us to be Ministers – Ambassadors of Reconciliation!

1) Ambassador represents His Country – His King – His President

D) Represents what He is about – Represents His intentions – His mission – His heart

What is Chief on God's heart?

A) Reconciliation! – Why He's still waiting – Rapture hasn't happened – More souls to be saved!

B) Restore those who are fallen –

1) Christians are the only ARMY that SHOOTS it's WOUNDED!

Galatians 6:1

“Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.”

C) **SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS** – KJV – MEEKNESS = power under control

1) I have the power to BLAST – have the info – STUPID DECISIONS

D) **Ministry is counseling** watching does opposite – Not pointing finger/ saying told you so

1) But it is being there to restore

E) It is interesting that the only description that Jesus ascribed to himself in all four gospels – was this – **I am MEEK and lowly of heart!**

1) Paul says Restore in a Spirit of MEEKNESS!

So How do we do that? How Restore? How Ministers of Reconciliation?

A) #1 Remove the Plank!

B) Jesus had a sense of humor – we see that in the picture He paints here

V. 3 And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? 5 Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

C) Jesus grew up in a Carpenter Shop – He knew of specks and planks

1) Speck – Dust – Your brother has Speck –
D) You are trying to help him – **You have this 2x4 sticking out of your head**

1) You are slaughtering people with your PLANK - there is **CARNAGE everywhere you turn**

This would be a good Christian Cartoon: Veggie Tales – Bible Man – this could be PLANK MAN!

A) Every episode – is just mass CARNAGE!

B) Problem with some people – they want to help others – Plank in own eye.

1) Plank of Pride – Speak truth – but not in love – come across not in humility but in Pride – **Know it all.**

C) Self Righteous – Pharisaical

D) Not patient – but overbearing – They have their own agenda

E) Planks of Bitterness and unforgiveness – NO TRUSTING – Suspicious of everyone!

Speck hunters or we might call them SIN SNIFFERS – are dangerous!

A) Jesus is saying that the speck is a lot less DANGEROUS than the speck hunter –

B) Jesus' view of the SPECK HUNTER – PLANK MAN – OR PLANK WOMAN? - V.5 **YOU HYPOCRITE!**

C) Here is the Danger – we get saved – we get delivered – we begin to grow – there is transformation that takes place in our lives

1) **WE FORGET – how we used to be!**

D) We forget the things we used to STRUGGLE WITH!

1) We end up having so little grace – with those who are struggling! - **So sad**

A Popular Pastor here in CA, wrote a book yrs ago – where the Premise was this: Jesus is either Lord of All – Or He is not Lord AT ALL

A) He is either the Lord of every area of your life – or He is not your Lord {**Sounds good – not Accurate**

B) He went on to build a case for why He believed that there is no such thing as a CARNAL CHRISTIAN!

C)I found that to be so interesting – Because that is the exact term that Paul used to Describe the Christians in Corinth.

Cc)Paul begins the Letter by commending them of all the things they were doing that were good – and evidence of Christ in their lives

D)But then Paul would say: But you are CARNAL
1)CARNAL Simply means Fleshly

E)Given over to fleshly tendencies (**lust of the flesh**) – or it could mean – trying to do the right things in the energy of the flesh.

1)The believers in Corinth were guilty of both - CARNAL

I for one am glad there are CARNAL Christians here: People who are still trying to figure it out – still struggling.

A)Now I want you to know – that – I don't want you to stay that way!

B)**Praying that you grow** – Colossians – goal – Present every man complete in Christ!

1)Glad you are here – glad you feel welcome

C)There will be days – You feel encouraged – other days Feel bad and convicted – that is the power of the WORD!

D)THE church is never meant to be a CLUB for the high and mighty – **IT IS MEANT TO BE a HOSPITAL for the Hurting!**

E)A place of Reconciliation – Done in MEEKNESS AND LOVE!

How do we do that? How Restore? How Ministers of Reconciliation?

A)#1 Remove the Plank!

#2 WE NEED DISCERNMENT. V.6

6 “Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

B)JESUS is telling us – We are not to be Judgmental – but we are to be Discerning!

C)Sometimes you are talking to someone who is in Rebellion – They just don't want to listen!

1)They just want to ARGUE! –

D)You hit on an issue involving their life and they just CHANGE THE SUBJECT. –

1)WASTING YOUR TIME

E)LIKE giving what is holy to the dogs – or Pearls before Swine –

Jesus told his disciples – You go to a city that is like that – they don't want to listen – not open to the gospel.

A)**Shake the dust off your feet and move on!**

B)Sometimes we can try so hard – with those who's hearts are so hard

1)We just need to move on.

C)Missionaries in Poland – 15 yrs – Struggle – very little fruit – Whispers – What is wrong with them.

1)After 15yrs they finally left –

D)Took a year break to recover – **the Lord sent them to Cambodia** – Where things BLEW UP – Fruit was abundant

1)Nothing wrong with them – RIGHT MISSIONARIES – WRONG PLACE

E)Right person at the Right place at the Right time! – Amazing Fruit!

There is a time for Discernment – there is a time to discern if this is a futile effort - How do we do that ? – Pray! V.7,8

⁷ “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.”

A)We are going to come back to these verses next week! – Look at in Detail

B)But for today – Pray –Present continual sense Keep praying, asking....

C)We need to learn to pray before we ACT! – Confront - (CAN I BE BOLD)

1)**Not praying – NO BUSINESS TALKING !**

There was a time when I was a younger Christian that I was so quick to confront – I would see someone doing something wrong – Tell them!

A) Problem was – They rarely received it - Probably pride on my part

B) But I genuinely cared for them – Received Opposition

C) Started learning – to just Pray! – Pray for them

1) And I would wait – I would only go to them if I really sensed the Lord telling me to.

D) Usually when I did – they received what I had to say – Changed

Can I encourage you: Learn to pray for people – see struggling – moving in a direction that could be off or Dangerous.

A) See the speck – we all have them – pray for them!

B) Avoid making emotional decisions – Emotional response – Call them

1) Write that email – Make that post on Facebook

C) Pray and wait – Acronym - THINK

THINK

- **T. Is it timely?** – Right time to say this?
- **H. Is it helpful?** – Is this going to help them or just hurt them?
- **I. Is it inspiring?** – Tear down or build up?
- **N. Is it even necessary?** – Does this need to be said?
- **K. Is it Kind?** – Speak the truth in love.

How do we become ministers of Reconciliation?

- Remove the Plank!
- The need for Discernment V.6
- Pray V.7,8
- Patience

Patience

- Seeing People clearly!

“Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh.” 2 Corinthians 5:16

A) EITHER in Christ – or not in Christ! All that matters

“Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.” 2 Corinthians 5:17

B) We are all a work in Progress - Be a Church filled with speck men and women – NEW CREATIONS

1) NOT PLANK MEN AND PLANK WOMEN – Carnage!

“Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.” 2 Corinthians 5:18, 19

C) Loving Jesus – Learning to Love each other – Loving the Lost!