Sunday, April 7, 2013

"DON'T JUDGE ME!"
(Matthew 7:1-6)

Today we continue our journey through Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Perhaps the most quoted (and misquoted) verse in the Bible is our focus for today. What did Jesus teach about "judging others"?

"Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces" (Matthew 7:6, NASB).

1. THE MISUNDERSTANDING: Who appointed you a judge? _____.

"You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. So then, you will know them by their fruits" (Matthew 7:16, 17, 20, NASB).

2. THE PRINCIPLE: It's easier to be critical of others' faults than _____.

"Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults—unless, of course, you want the same treatment. That critical spirit has a way of boomeranging" (Matthew 7:1, *The Message*).

"Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it" (James 4:11, NIV).

3. THE DANGER: I'm not a perfect judge because I can't see _____.

"Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7, NASB).

"The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?" (Jeremiah 17:9, NIV).

"So don't make judgments about anyone ahead of time—before the Lord returns. For he will bring our darkest secrets to light and will reveal our private motives. Then God will give to each one whatever praise is due" (1 Corinthians 4:5, NLT).

4. THE DIRECTIVE: Keep your eyes clear so you can see how to help brothers or sisters _____.

"Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:1-2, NIV).

❖SERMON NOTES ❖
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(Matthew 7:1-6)

"Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces" (Matthew 7:6, NASB).

1. THE MISUNDERSTANDING: Who appointed you a judge? <u>Jesus did</u>.

"You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. So then, you will know them by their fruits" (Matthew 7:16, 17, 20, NASB).

2. THE PRINCIPLE: It's easier to be critical of others' faults than <u>to see our own</u>.

"Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults— unless, of course, you want the same treatment. That critical spirit has a way of boomeranging" (Matthew 7:1, *The Message*).

"Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it" (James 4:11, NIV).

3. THE DANGER: I'm not a perfect judge because I can't see <u>another person's heart</u>.

"Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7, NASB).

"The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?" (Jeremiah 17:9, NIV).

"So don't make judgments about anyone ahead of time—before the Lord returns. For he will bring our darkest secrets to light and will reveal our private motives. Then God will give to each one whatever praise is due" (1 Corinthians 4:5, NLT).

4. THE DIRECTIVE: Keep your eyes clear so you can see how to help brothers or sisters <u>deal with their struggles</u>.

"Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:1-2, NIV).