

Sunday, August 17, 2025
Battleground's CCLI: 11403295 CLSL: CSPL142794

Kingdom Judgment

Matthew 7:1-6

Main idea: Judgment is inevitable, but must be biblically exercised to build others up, not to tear others down. Truthful judgments must be practiced, but only in a self-aware humility and a sincere love that honors God and serves others with the truth.

Introduction

- What do you desire for your brothers and sisters in Christ? - **Colossians 1:28-29**
- Does loving people mean we endorse lifestyle and habits, and suspend all judgment? - **Matthew 5:20**

Four Kingdom Principles For Making Biblical Judgments

- Principle #1: Judge rightly, understanding God will judge you - **vv. 1-2**
 - God's judgments are perfect - **James 4:12; Matt. 18:33; Hebrews 4:13**
 - Our judgments are often flawed - **Proverbs 14:12; 21:2; 1 Cor. 4:3-5**
 - God's Word is the standard - **John 17:17; James 2:13; Psalm 18:25; Revelation 20:12-13**

Thou art making the judgment-seat dreadful to thyself, and the account strict.
- Chrysostom

- Principle #2: God commands us to make judgments
 - Definition: To form an opinion of something positively or negatively by examination and scrutiny - **Hebrews 5:14**
 - Demonstration:
 - Our everyday life - **Matthew 10:16; 1 John 4:1**
 - Our Church - **Revelation 2:2**
 - Our lives together - **Matthew 18:15; Galatians 6:1**
 - Prohibition:
 - Judging the destiny of others - **1 Corinthians 4:4-5**
 - Judging the motives of others - **1 Kings 8:39**
- Principle #3: Judge yourself before you judge anyone else - **vv. 3-5**
 - Be humble, not prideful - **Gal. 5:26; Eph. 4:1-3; Rom. 14:10**
 - Be self-aware, not hypercritical

- Self-aware - **2 Corinthians 12:20; Ephesians 4:31**
 - Hyper-critical - **Romans 2:1-5; Galatians 5:13-15**
- Principle #4: Keep many judgments to yourself - v. 6
 - What is my responsibility? - **Romans 14:4**
 - What are my motives? - **Ephesians 4:29**
 - With whom am I speaking?
 - The pearl is the truth, but those pigs bite! - **Matthew 10:14-15**
 - Not everyone cares about the truth - **Proverbs 9:7-8**
 - Is it the right time? - **Proverbs 25:11**
 - Is this an opportunity for grace? - **1 Peter 4:8; 2 Timothy 1:5-6**

So What?

- How do I make sound judgments in my relationship with others?
 - Be putting on the mind of Christ - **Colossians 3:12-14**
 - Be an investor - **Romans 14:13, 19**
 - Be factual - **Proverbs 18:13,17**
 - Be careful - **Proverbs 29:20**
 - Be fair - **Deuteronomy 1:17**
 - Be gentle - **Galatians 6:1**
- Are my words poison or medicine?

*It is possible to press the words of the Bible so far that they
yield not medicine, but poison.*

- J.C. Ryle

Now What? (Growth Group Discussion)

- Read **Matthew 18:21-35**. Now look before this parable to discover the context in which Jesus offers this parable. Why did Jesus tell this parable?
- How should God's grace and mercy impact how we relate and communicate to each other?
- How does this parable relate to how or if we should make judgments in our brothers and sisters' lives?

- Review your sermon notes under the “So What,” and discuss how we might grow in the areas of making sound judgment in our biblical community.