

Judgementalism and Judgement

*November 16*

**INTRODUCTION:**  As Jesus continues to stress true righteousness in the life of His disciple He turns to a series of warnings. Today we’ll consider the warning not to be judgemental but also not to be naïve.

**KEY POINT:** right judgement

**CHALLENGE:** In one sitting, read the whole sermon often over the coming months.

**A.M. SERMON RECAP** (1 Cor 15, Put the Gospel First)

* What birds-eye facts about this passage help us understand it?
* What is the Gospel?
* Why should we put the Gospel first?

**P.M. SERMON RECAP** (WWBWWB: Euthanasia)

* Where does euthanasia stand in Canada today?
* Why have recent legalizations happened so quickly?
* What is a biblical morality on this subject?
* From theory to practice, what real life situations will we be called to minister in truth and in grace?

**READ:** Mt 7:1–6

**QUESTIONS:**

1. *Judgementalism is what Jesus is addressing in the first warning; naivety in the second (v.6). He forbids Judgementalism but affirms judgement/evaluation/discernment. We know this because of the context of the passage and the contrast between the two warnings.*
2. Here Jesus says “do not judge” but in Jn 7:24 to “judge with right judgement.” Which is it and what does He mean?
3. **How is v. 1 so often misunderstood and abused in the church and culture?**
4. **Can you share a personal example of Judgementalism? Can you think of biblical examples (e.g. Lk 18:11b–14).**
5. **V. 1- Who is the ultimate judge? What may we get wrong if we seek to take the place of the perfect judge?**
6. **V. 2- Why must we not be quick to take His place?**
7. **V. 3- Rather, what should our focus be?**
8. **V. 4- How is there often hypocrisy in Judgementalism?**
9. **V. 5- Humbled by our own sin and the grace we have received, how are we better placed to truly evaluate others?** (c.f. Gal 6:1).
10. Can you share a personal example of naivety? Can you share examples of where the Bible calls us to use evaluative discernment?
11. *Dogs were not “man’s best friend” as they are today but street scavengers; pigs were likewise scavengers and were unclean according to the Law. Pearls symbolize the Gospel, or message of the Kingdom.*
12. **Related to the Gospel, who do the dogs and pigs represent and why would continually sharing the Gospel to them be wasteful?**
13. **What evangelistic wisdom does this verse offer us?**
14. **What does it require to discern someone to be a dog or a pig (quite the judgement!).**
15. How would you now define judgementalism and naivety (or right judgement)? What is the danger in each extreme?

**Next Week:** Ask and It will be Given, Mt 7:7–11