

A Study of the Book of Matthew: Chapter 7 v. 1-5

- **Jesus begins this passage by telling the people to not judge others, or they will be judged the same way. (v. 1-2)**
 - The word used for judge here is Greek word *krinete*, meaning to condemn or count as guilty.
 - Is being judgmental (condemning) something that the modern day church struggles with? _____
 - Judgment can show itself in many different forms. We can condemn people for the clothes they wear, jobs they work, or in instances like Romans 2 we can judge people for sins that we also struggle with.
 - Does Christians judging (condemning) people bring glory to God?

 - As Christians we are not in the business of condemning people. There is only one Judge, which is God. (James 4:11-12)
 - As God is the ultimate Judge we are not called to condemn or cast down people, but there are times where we need to use judgement to determine how to interact with or handle people.
 - Read Matthew 7:18-20. What judgement or understanding are we told to make in this passage? _____
 - Read John 7:24. In what way are we supposed to make a judgement if it happens? _____
 - Read Galatians 6:1. If someone has already been judged or found in trespass are we called to leave them condemned? _____
 - As mentioned before, any judgement we put out must be righteous judgement. If we judge people harshly or with “our own” standards, what kind of judgement will we receive in return? _____
 - If we chose to lack mercy and love to other people, we open the door for those same things to be denied to us by God.
- **Jesus takes it a step further, pointing out that even if we are to judge others righteously there are things we must check before doing so (v. 3-5).**
 - What point is Jesus trying to make here comparing a speck in one person’s eye to a plank in their own eye?
 - Just as this example is somewhat of a ridiculous image, so also is the concept of a believer pointing out someone’s wrongdoing or sin without acknowledging or handling their own.
 - Jesus continues and takes things a step further in verse 4. How is the “judgement” in verse 4 different from the judgement in verse 3?

- When flying on airplanes, what instructions are people given in case there is an emergency and oxygen masks come down?
 - Why are passengers instructed to put their mask on first before helping someone else? Is there any application from that that we can apply to ourselves as believers? _____
- Just as we have to confirm our own safety before helping others, so we must also make sure we have repented of our own sins and struggles before trying to help others move on from theirs.
- In verse 5 we are instructed to take the log out of our own eye. Is this something we have to do by ourselves? _____
 - Read John 3:17. Just as God did not send his son into the world to condemn it, but to save it. In that same way God doesn't want us to fight our sins alone. God's will for us is to have salvation, and to be able to remove the log from our own eye. In order for us to do this though, we must ask Him to help and also ask our own brethren to help as well (James 5:16).
 - Sin is not something that only a few Christians struggle with, we are ALL faced with temptation and sin. By calling on God and working through our own weaknesses and shortcomings, we are better able to help other people in the right way.