

February 25, 2024

Judge Not?

Matthew 7:1-6

Jesus said, “Don’t judge,” so you can’t judge me. Is that what Jesus really said? If you read Matthew 7:1 those are the first two words of the verse. If a person is not to judge, then every behavior and action is equally acceptable. Is that what Jesus meant? Of course not. Do not judge is a command against being judgmental. The two are not the same. Contained within the passage are four instructions for believers.

Additional Verses:

Psalms 51

Lamentations 5:1-22

Matthew 18:15-20

2 Corinthians 5:18-18

Outline:

1. Believers are instructed to judge with discernment.

2. Believers are instructed to judge ourselves.

3. Believers are instructed to judge without hypocrisy.

4. Believers are instructed to judge to restore.

Study Questions:

1. How does the world misinterpret do not judge? Why is this a convenient verse for the world to use?

2. How would you define censorious? When have you seen this attitude at work in your life?

3. Why does Jesus warn us to judge ourselves? How can this help you not have a censorious attitude?

4. When have you seen a believer act in hypocrisy? What did you think of them? How does this harm the Gospel of Jesus?

5. Why is restoration the goal? How does restoration reflect the Gospel?

6. How is the Holy Spirit leading you to respond to God today?