

08 November 2020

**Judgy People**  
Matthew 7:1-6

7 “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. <sup>2</sup>For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. <sup>3</sup>“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? <sup>4</sup>How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? <sup>5</sup>You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye. <sup>6</sup>“Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

**Three Lessons on People to People Relationships**

1. **The Measure You Use – Matthew 7:1-2**
  - Apply the same measure to others as you would for yourself
  - Application of the Grace Rule
2. **Pay Attention to your Plank – Matthew 7:3-5**
  - Judge yourself first before you judge others
  - Self-examination is the first examination
  - See clearly to help others with their speck
3. **Don’t Waste Pearls – Matthew 7:6**
  - Don’t be judgmental, but don’t throw out discernment either
  - Don’t waste things of value on those that won’t appreciate it.
  - We’re responsible for sharing the gospel, but not their response to it.

**Personal Reflection/Small Group Questions**

**Icebreaker Question**

The human mind tends to make quick first impressions of people. Consider what is unique about you? What is one interesting fact about yourself, that nobody could tell just by looking at you.

**Opening Discussion**

Have you ever made an incorrect judgement on someone? Did you jump to a conclusion and realised it was wrong? What’s an example of a snap judgement you made?

Have we been on the receiving end of judgemental people? What was the story behind it? What didn’t they know? How did this experience make you feel?

**The Measure you Use**

Do you find that we give ample and generous excuses for ourselves, yet not offer the same to others? Why do you think we have this double standard? What if you were to offer a generous explanation for people, when you don’t have all the information. How would this change your mindset of people?

**Pay Attention to Your Plank**

Do we find that we empathise with people when we have experienced similar experiences? Why do you think this is so?

Consider the planks you’ve dealt with in the past. The areas we have grown in and by God’s grace have overcome. How can you help those around you who are currently facing the same difficulties?

**Don’t Waste Pearls**

Jesus ministered differently to different people, he was discerning in sharing the gospel. Many accepted and many rejected the truth. Why do we feel discouraged when people reject our faith, when Jesus experienced the same? How can we be discerning when sharing the good news?