

Matthew 7:1-5 – Get the log out

- 1) Read Matthew 7:1; did Jesus mean we are never to make any judgments?
- 2) Have you ever heard the application; “don’t judge at all” for this passage?
- 3) If Jesus did not mean “never judge at all” what did He mean?
- 4) Comment on this statement from John MacArthur: “When an individual or a group of people develop their own standards of religion and morality, they inevitably judge everyone by those self-made beliefs and standards.”
- 5) What are the differences between being a debater and a problem solver?
- 6) Compare and discuss the differences between a beam and a speck
- 7) Is it fun to have a speck of dust in your eye?
- 8) Can you see clearly to address another’s sin if you have unrepentant sin in your life?
- 9) What does it indicate if you have the “gift” of seeing sin in other people?
- 10) Read James 4:11-12
 - a) How does this passage relate to Matthew 7:1-6?
 - b) How does this passage help you understand a judgmental attitude?
- 11) Read Matthew 7:5
 - a) Who’s sin are you to deal with first in any conflict?
 - b) Who’s sin do you not have full disclosure on?
 - c) Who’s sin do you know the most about?
 - d) Who’s sin should you spend the most time addressing?
 - e) How might this help you avoid being a condemning judge?
 - f) Would you say your problems are more or less likely to be solved if you adopt this attitude?
 - g) What will be the end result if you address your sin first (v.5b)?

Matthew 7:7-14 LA

Monday (Matthew 7:7-8) To possess God's wisdom is among the greatest needs we have. God's wisdom helps us to make prudent choices throughout our Christian lives—to choose God's way and reject the world's way in every situation. The Bible provides many commands and principles for godly living, but it is not an exhaustive manual of methods and rules for every conceivable situation. That would not be very workable, and it would keep us from relying directly on God. He wants us to be in His Word daily so that we can know His principles for righteous living and can pray wisely for guidance when we have difficult decisions. In Scripture the Lord gives believers enough truth to live responsibly, but enough mystery to draw them to Him in believing prayer: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him" (James 1:5). – John MacArthur.

Tuesday (Matthew 7:7) God wants us to seek his blessings. This is not because he wants to manipulate our lives, but because he longs to bless us and have us know the gifts in our lives come from him. So let's seek his presence, his grace, and his blessing. (heartlight.org)

Wednesday (Matthew 7:7-8) Ask! So often we're afraid to ask for help because we have to admit we don't have the answers. Seek! Effort and interest and perseverance are necessary and that's sometimes hard. Knock! In an era of doorbells, this is a forgotten action. But God wants us to use the A.S.K. principle and bring our hearts before him. So let's don't just whine, complain, desire, and want. Let's A.S.K. our Father and seek his glory. (heartlight.org)

Thursday (Matthew 7:9-11) Do you notice how our prayers are to be tied directly to the goodness of God? That is why you are to pray to God in faith (James 1:6-8). If you pray to God but do not believe He will provide for you the things you need to live – why pray at all? God is the supreme King of Kings, absolutely sovereign over all things. He is all powerful and able to do anything and to provide anything at any time – nothing hinders Him. That is true but God is also good! When you pray do not forget the goodness of God; He loves you and He will always give you what is best for you.

Friday (Matthew 7:12) The Golden Rule -- golden because it's genuine, lasting, and valuable. Imagine how different our world would be if we practiced this principle -- not just in our "church life," but in our daily life ... with our family, ... with our coworkers and employer, ... with the people we manage, ... with the folks on the freeway and in the neighborhoods where we drive, ... toward the waiters and waitresses who serve us. What a wonderfully different world it would be if the Golden Rule were to be practiced. I think I'll start changing my world with it today! How about you? (heartlight.org)

Saturday (Matthew 7:13-14) "Majority rules!" That's the edict of democracy. This has been a blessed political philosophy for so many people over the course of history. But, "majority rule" doesn't apply to the Kingdom of God. God sets the standard, not us. God's holiness is the goal, not just trying to be better than someone else. Most, regrettably, will never find the way of the Lord. They want it their way. One crucial problem with wanting things our way: it leads to ultimate disaster. God, the Creator and Sustainer of all life, is the only one who can set life's agenda. Let's ask for his help and guidance for our way! (heartlight.org)