



Sermon on the Mount: Judge Not

Sunday, April 3rd, 2016

A major theme throughout Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount is community. He knows that in community our flaws are visible and that we will encounter people that don't measure up to our standard.

Why is it true that the better you know someone the more there is to love...and hate?

Together as a group read through **Matthew 7:1-6**, then go back and read only verse 1 and 6.

If in 1 Cor. 5 Paul tells us to judge sin in the lives of others, then why does Jesus tell us in Matthew 7:1 to NOT judge?

What kind of judgment is Jesus asking us to NOT do?

To 'Judge Not', means that we do not exercise truth telling in a way that is wrapped up in condemnation. We are called to uphold right and wrong without a sense of disapproval.

Being honest, have you ever secretly enjoyed the failure of someone else?

- *Why does our heart so readily rejoice in another's punishment?*

How do we posture ourselves to uphold right and wrong, and not be judgmental?

Judgment, as Jesus defines it, makes us feel better than the guilty party; and in that we sin.

What types of people, or situations, are easy for us to pass judgment on?

Practically, what steps can we take to line our lives up with Jesus' words in Matthew 7:1?

The Gospel says that we are all equal in our sin. We all equally need His Grace. Read **John 8:2-11** as a group and talk about how Jesus lives out his words on Judgment and Condemnation.

How did Jesus pass judgment without bringing condemnation?