

## *Planks, Pigs, and Pearls*

Judging is about \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.

Judging makes people \_\_\_\_\_ us and attempts to \_\_\_\_\_ to our agenda.

Judging is an attempt to get someone to \_\_\_\_\_

### The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6

- “Our Father in heaven, holy is your name . . . “

This is a subtle acknowledgement that there is an \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_.

- forgive us our sins – laying my \_\_\_\_\_ before God.
- give us today our daily bread – laying my \_\_\_\_\_ before God.
- deliver us from evil – laying my \_\_\_\_\_ before God.

The core of the Lord's Prayer is for us to *entrust ourselves to God*.

You can become a person who is \_\_\_\_\_

*Jeremiah 17:7 & 8 – Blessed is the man who trusts in **the LORD**, whose confidence is in **him**. He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does **not fear** when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has **no worries** in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.*

You can be like a “man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.” – Luke 6:49

## *What happens if we fail to entrust ourselves to God?*

*“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear.” Matthew 6:25*

We will be racked with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

He's stressing two things —

- The Prayer = *entrust yourself to*
- Judging = *entrust others to God* – don't play God

*“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 then turn and tear you to pieces.” Matthew 7:6*

## *What's the connection between judging and worrying about what you eat, drink, and wear?*

A pearl is a \_\_\_\_\_. He's talking about taking good things and giving them to pigs.

**The issue** is that a pig or a dog is **UNABLE** to appreciate the good thing and receive it.

Remember the context:

- When we don't entrust ourselves to God we're plagued with worry and anxiety
- When we do not entrust others to God we are tempted to control and manipulate them.

Sometimes we try to control people through \_\_\_\_\_

When *you sense anxiety* because another person isn't going along with your desires *it's time to look in the mirror* and see if there is a plank in there somewhere.

### **TAKE-AWAYS**

#1 – Entrusting ourselves and others to God is the \_\_\_\_\_ we will be able help anybody

*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. – Matthew 7:5*

#2 – Give up the \_\_\_\_\_ of control

Accept the reality that you \_\_\_\_\_.

#3 – When you set yourself up as a judge of \_\_\_\_\_ of another person's heart you set yourself up for \_\_\_\_\_.



# 6

## Judging

Matthew 7: 1 – 6

### ***If there is a God— and it all belongs to Him — HOW SHOULD WE TREAT OTHER PEOPLE?***

#### ***Uses of the Greek word "krino"***

# 1 – Titus 3:12 – As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to winter there.

Means: to *decide*, to *distinguish*, to *discern*, or to *resolve*.

# 2 – John 18:31 – Pilate said, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law."

Refers to a courtroom setting and judging something in a court of law

# 3 – 1 Corinthians 4:5 – Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God.

The third use of krino is:

- Something that is God's prerogative alone
- It involves exposing the darkest recesses and motives of the heart

*John 7:24 – Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment.*

To judge is to make an evaluation, or conclusion about another person's inmost being or value. It is to confuse actions with essence – which is God's job not ours. Judging people very subtly diminishes the person's worth and in the same breath elevates us.