



Rules for Relationships

"The Kings Speech" Part #8 Noah Largent 4/30/16

Matthew 7:1-7&12 ¹ "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ² For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. ³ "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? ⁴ 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? ⁵ 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. ⁶ "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. ⁷ "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.¹² So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 7:1-4

"Do not judge": What kind of "judging" is Jesus referring to? The word "judge" is used several different ways in the Bible: 1. Judicial System (Rom. 13:3-4) 2. Church Leadership (1Tim.5:20) 3. Matters of Doctrine (Gal. 1:6-8) 4. Moral behavior (Matt. 18:15-19) 5. Eternal destiny (James 4:12) 6. Moral superiority (Luke 18:9).

"in the same way you judge others": Jesus is warning that the self-righteousness that comes from comparing yourself to others reflects a disregard for the universal need of salvation that everyone has. Jesus is also issuing a warning, the scales we use to judge others is the same that will be applied to you! (similar warning in Matt. 6:12;14&15).

True disciples will not judge one another inappropriately, because they have experienced God's mercy and forgiveness and so will extend to others that same mercy and forgiveness out of gratitude to God. -NIV Application Commentary page. 314

Matthew 7:5 **"The plank in your eye, the speck in your brother's"**: Jesus applies an extreme form of exaggeration, contrasting a "plank" (same word for "beam" like one used in the construction of the temple) to a speck of saw dust, pointing out the insanity of paying more attention to others faults than to your own! The fact that we find this to be true is a sure sign that there is something significantly wrong with our heart!

"first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly": Having an appreciation for our own spiritual condition will allow us to be of genuine service to others.

Matthew 7:6

"Dogs, Pigs and Pearls": Understanding your audience allows you to shape a wise response to each person. Dogs and pigs were scavenging animals, they wanted food not jewelry. Giving them something other than what they were ready to receive could quickly lead to a vicious response. Consider Jesus' example in Luke 23. Jesus readily answered the questions of a seriously conflicted Pilot, but Jesus gave no answer to Herod who was merely interested in Jesus putting on a show. In this verse Jesus is compelling His followers to use discretion ("judge") when engaging others!

Matthew 7:7

"Ask, seek and knock": This a short excerpt from Jesus' longest continuous teaching and this is the second time He instructs His followers to pray. It's not an accident that healthy relationships are built on a foundation of *continually* seeking God for wisdom!

Considerations about Confronting.

1. Are you humbling working out "the logs" in our own eye?
2. Commit yourself to praying for God's wisdom in all your relationships!
3. Am I addressing a genuine moral issue or a personal offense?
4. Is this a relationship where God has given me an opportunity or responsibility to speak into the life of the individual?

Notes:
