

JUDGING OTHERS

Matthew Chapter 6.5-13, 7.1-6

HOW NOT TO JUDGE

Matthew 7.1-6

Clearly, we are called to help each other and point each other towards Jesus. But *how* we say it is sometimes even more important than *what* we say.

- Examine your own life and ask what would you do or think or say if you were in that situation?
- Examine your life and ask yourself what similar situations you *have been* in, and how did others positively and negatively speak to or treat you?
- Most importantly, what measure of grace has God given you for your life, in a similar situation or in others?

All that said, this is where *biblical objectivity* becomes *so important*. We are to “speak the truth in love, which is in the context of healthy church body life in **Ephesians 4.15**.

**Truth without love will crush someone.
Love without truth will enable someone.**

Colossians 4.6

BUILDING UP AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We are to be discerning and to hold each other accountable, confronting each other, in love, in our sin. But we don't judge in an eternal and ultimate sense, nor in a self-righteous and judgmental sense, as if we are the ultimate Judge. It is very difficult to walk the fine line of being generous and gracious, but without being naïve, weak, or foolish. We need to be “wise as serpents and innocent as doves” (**Matthew 10.16**).

Proverbs 27.5, 6 // Galatians 6.1

We want relationship, community, and friendship, but when you mention commitment and accountability, we run the other way.

-Pastor Tim Keller

Proverbs 12.1, 28.23 // Ecclesiastes 7.5
Matthew 18.15-20 // 1 Corinthians 5.1-13



NOTES:

Recommended Resources

Radical by David Platt

A great book on living the life of real, radical discipleship. Currently, our Steering Team, Community Group Leaders, and

The Gospel Transformation Bible

Published by Crossway, this bible is not *so much* a study bible, but a bible with commentary to help you see the bigger picture of Christ and His Gospel in and through all the Scriptures.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We're so glad you joined us today! We'd LOVE for you to **fill out the green Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering at the end of service or take it to one of our **teammates in a Green Shirt** at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information.

Feel free to **grab some food or coffee** out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our Kids on Mission classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a **faithful servant** behind each of those examples. By giving your time and talent on Sundays, you're **an essential part** of helping others meet Jesus, and serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! Fill out a connection card or visit the **Connection Booth** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll **build friendships**, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

GIVING

Gospel-centered generosity should never be fueled by obligation or guilt; it should be motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call Life Mission your Home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets at the end of service, give online at lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give or mail a check to our PO Box. **Thank you so much for your love & support!**

KIDS ON MISSION

Our Kids are incredibly important to us! The Kids on Mission ministry has classrooms for **newborns - 6th grade** & is passionately overseen by **Audra Napolitano**. Please Visit lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walkthrough of our curriculum.

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our Junior High students (**7th & 8th graders**) worship with the adults, and then head to their class for the rest of service. We challenge them to **dig deeper into what they learned on Sunday** throughout the week.

Our **High School students** stay in the adult service because we believe that it is critical for them to not “graduate the faith” when they graduate school. For questions on our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at hbarnes5@yahoo.com or **John Hawthorne** at hawthorne-john@hotmail.com

SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read **Matthew 7:1-6**. What stuck out to you from the message on Sunday or was most impactful from these verses? _____

Matthew 7:1 says "Judge not, that you will be judged." What did Jesus really mean by this? _____

Matthew 7:6 says, "don't give what is holy to dogs or pearls to pigs, and beware of false prophets." Regarding this verse, Pastor and Theologian John Stott says that "It would be impossible to obey either of these commands without using our critical judgment. For in order to determine our behavior toward 'dogs,' 'pigs' and 'false prophets' we must first be able to recognize them, and in order to do that we must exercise some critical discernment." What is the difference between "calling out" or "critical discernment" and the "judge not" that Jesus is commanding? _____

Re-read **Matthew 7:3-5**. What does this verse say we should do before we call someone on their sin? Why? _____

Read **Matthew 18:15-17, Romans 16:17-18, 1 Corinthians 5:3, Galatians 1:8, Philippians 3:2, Titus 3:10-11, 1 John 4:1-4, 2 John 9-11 and 3 John 9-10 and John 7:24**. Do these verses sound like an action done in love or one of sin?

Job asks a great question in **Job 9:2**, "How can a man be in the right with God?" Well, what do you think? How is it that God does not judge us according to our sin? _____

Read **Romans 3:23-25, Romans 5:1 and Romans 5:16-17**. How were we as Christians justified by a holy and just God? _____

How can we be unlovingly judgmental to someone else when the Great Judge has freely forgiven us in Christ? _____

Read **Ephesians 4:22-24**. If you struggle with judging others in an unloving way, what's repentance and turning away from your sin look like? _____

Spend some time in prayer as a group, reminding each other of the Gospel and praying that we would not be unloving to one another.