



RESOLVING CONFLICT



Practical Solutions to Real Peace & Harmony

The Right Judgement

Matthew 7:1-5; 1 Corinthians 13:5-7

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Bottom Line: Instead of judging others **critically**, God wants you to judge **charitably**.

Review:

Week 1 – The Right Priority

Don't gunnysack a relationship by keeping a list of wrongs. Reconcile quickly. Overlook or Reconcile.

Week 2 – The Right Focus

Success in conflict is not getting the right result but reflecting the right person. Reflect God.

Week 3 – The Right Heart

The first step in any conflict is to thoroughly examine your heart.

Week 4 – The Right Approach

Confession brings freedom. Proverbs 28:13, "He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

Week 5 – The Right Response

Only forgiven people can really forgive.

Today – The Right Judgment

Introduction:

Jesus said, "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way

you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you (Matthew 7:1-2).” Does this mean we are to never, ever judge?

As you interact with people, you must constantly interpret, evaluate, and form opinions regarding their qualities, words, and actions, so you may respond appropriately.

We must judge. Judging is a necessary part of life, but it can be very dangerous. Scripture warns that all have a natural tendency to judge others in a wrong way.

The bottom line is you and I tend to jump to conclusions that are very wrong.

Another Perspective:

Instead of judging others critically, God wants you to judge charitably.

Making a charitable judgment means that out of love for God, you strive to believe the best about others until you have the facts to prove otherwise.

This means if you can reasonably interpret facts in two different ways, God calls you to embrace the positive interpretation over the negative.

Matthew 7:3-5, “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? 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? 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.”

In Matthew 7:1-5, Jesus forbids you to judge others until you have done two things:

1. Take responsibility for any contribution you may have made to the problem.
2. Make a diligent effort to “see clearly.” This means to accurately understand what someone else has done and why he or she did it.

Jesus says, “So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you (Matthew 7:12).” How do you want others to judge you?

How specifically do we do this? We follow Paul’s teaching in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

To follow Jesus, we must judge charitably/lovingly. How do we do this?

1. Take Responsibility
2. See Clearly
3. Judge the Way You Want to Be Judged (Full of Love).

NEXT STEPS:

- Memorize: 1 Corinthians 13:-7**
- Be Very Careful About Judging Others**
- Take Responsibility**
- See Clearly**
- Judge the Way You Want to Be Judged / Love**