

**“The Sermon on the Mount (pt. 4)
Reminders to the Christians”
Matthew 7**

Open:

- This chapter will be divided into four sections.
 - Reminders about righteous judgement. **vs. 1-5**
 - Reminders about responses to needs. **vs. 6-12**
 - We will look at the first two this week and the last two next week
 - Reminders about remaining on the straight and narrow.
 - Reminders about responding to the truth.
- This chapter was Christ’s closing comments to His followers.
 - Jesus wanted to leave His followers with some reminders about a few things in the Christian life that are easy to forget.

I. Reminders to the Christian about righteous judgement. (vs. 1-5)

- Judging = To pass sentence on; to come to a conclusion; or to form a personal opinion.

A. Recognize that your opinion will not change the outcome of God’s final judgement.

- **I Cor.4:5** *“Therefore **judge nothing** before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.”*
- i. My opinions will not be considered, nor will they influence the final judgements of God.
- ii. God will have a complete record of the facts; He will not ask my opinion on the situation.
 - a. **Mt. 12:36-37** *“But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. [37] For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.”*
 - b. **Rom. 14:2-4** *“For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs. [3] Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him. [4] Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.”*
- iii. Because my opinions will not influence eternity; I shouldn’t live my life seeking to insert them.

B. **We need to recognize that God is the only one who reserve the right to judge.**

- i. Jesus, even as part of the Godhead, chose to leave the judging of men’s actions to His Father.
John 8:15-18 *“Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man. [16] And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me. [17] It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true. [18] I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.”*
 - Jesus chose to only speak of the things He had heard of His Father. We need to follow Christ’s example and only speak of truth (and not speculation, no matter how righteous we may think our judgements are). **John 8:26** *“I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him.”*

- ii. Jesus set for us an example. Distribute the truth and leave the judging of the recipients up to God. **John 12:47-48** *“And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. [48] He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.”*
- iii. We need to choose to let God take care of the judging and make sure we are living our lives according to God’s Word. **Rom. 2:1-2** *“Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. [2] But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.”*

C. Recognize God has not called us to be judges of the world; but rather witnesses to the world.

- **Acts 1:8a** *“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me...”*
- i. Many criticize those who, in our society, wrongfully weaponize or misrepresent information for personal profit; while they fail to realize they are guilty of doing the same thing.
- ii. Many live their lives critical of those who are living their lives differently than they think they should, instead of having compassion on them as Christ has instructed.

- We should not spend our lives judging how others are keeping the law, but rather spend our lives making sure we are abiding by the law. **Rom. 14:10** *“But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.”*

II. Reminders to the Christians about our response to needs. (vs. 6-12)

A. We have the confidence of knowing, that during a time of need we can go to the heavenly Father for our needs and expect them to be met. (**vs. 7-8**)

- i. Jesus understands our needs and wants to help us during our time(s) of need(s).
Heb. 4:15-16 *“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. [16] Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”*
- ii. **During our times of need, we can have the confidence of knowing our petitions will be heard and granted according to His will.** **I John 5:14-16** *“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: [15] And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.”*
- iii. We need to recognize that, if God has taken care of nature, surely He will take care of His most valuable creation. **Matt. 6:30-32** *“Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? [31] Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? [32] (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.”*

B. **We should seek to meet the needs of others the way we desire for God to meet our needs. (vs. 9-12)**

- i. One day, God will separate true religion from vain religion based on how one responded to the needs of the people they met on earth. **Mt. 25: 32-40** *“And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: [33] And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. [34] Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: [35] For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. [37] Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? [38] When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?[39] Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? [40] And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.”*
- ii. Recognize how generous people in life will see their needs being met. **Lk. 6:38** *“Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.”*
- iii. **My love for God is not measured by the words I say, but by the actions I perform towards those that Jesus loved. I John 3:16-18** *“Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. [17] But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? [18] My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.”*

Close:

- Decide your not going to live your life judging others actions by your own opinion; but you going to live your life obeying God’s words.
- Choose to live your life depended on God for your needs; and to live your life seeking to help those that Jesus would help if he were here.

Prov. 3:27

“Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.”

“Review Questions”

1. Who is the only one who reserve the right to judge a persons actions? **God.**
2. God has not called us to be judges of the world but **??????** to the world. **Witnesses.**
3. According to I John 5:14-16 we can have **??????** knowing that God will hear our prayers. **Confidence.**
4. We should seek to meet the needs of **??????** the way we desire for God to meet our needs. **Others.**
5. My love for God is measured by what I **????????**; it is not measured by what I say. **Do.**