



Dealing with Judging

Matthew 7:1-5

August 16, 2026

Humble love moves away from condemnation and towards helpful discernment.

Answers to the fill-in-the-blanks, extra Bible verses and study questions

Introduction Notes: John 13:34, Matthew 5,6,7, Matthew 23

2 Moves to Humbly Love Others

Don't Condemn Matthew 7:1-2

Genesis 2:8-13

Hebrews 5:14, Romans 12:2, Philippians 1:9-10, 1 John 4:1, 1 Thessalonians 5:21

Matthew 7:15-20, James 4:12

Galatians 6:3, Philippians 2:3-4

Do Discern Matthew 7:3-5

Galatians 6:1-2, Psalm 139:23-24, Ephesians 4:15, Proverbs 27:5-6

Study Questions to Go Deeper with God:

Am I condemning others or humbly examining myself? Jesus warns against hypocritical judgment—not against recognizing sin or making wise moral distinctions. What do you think is the difference between condemning someone and lovingly discerning what is right or wrong? What do you think the “log” in our own eye teach us about the importance of humility before we address another person’s “speck”? Where are you most tempted to notice someone else’s faults while overlooking your own? What would humble self-examination look like in that situation? **Further verses to study:** Romans 2:1–4, Galatians 6:1, 1 Corinthians 11:28, Psalm 139:23–24

How can discernment become an expression of humble love? Jesus tells us to “first take the log out of your own eye” and then we will be able to see clearly enough to help with the speck in another person’s eye. Why do you think genuine discernment is an important part of loving others? How do you think we confront sin or offer correction without becoming self-righteous, harsh, or condemning? What do you think makes correction helpful rather than hurtful? What do you think are attitudes that should be present when we lovingly point someone toward God’s truth? **Further verses to study:** Ephesians 4:15, Galatians 6:1–2, Proverbs 27:5–6, James 5:19–20, 2 Timothy 2:24–25

What does humble love look like in action? The movement Jesus describes is significant: look inward → deal with your own sin → see clearly → help your brother or sister. How do you think our families, friendships, church, and small groups would be different if we practiced this pattern consistently? **Further verses to study:** Philippians 2:3–5, Colossians 3:12–14, Romans 12:9–10, James 3:13–18, 1 Peter 4:8

A great article on Matthew 7:1-5

<https://bibleproject.com/articles/what-matthew-71-5-judge-not-lest-ye-be-judged-means/>

Another great article about not judging:

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/judge-not>

