Matthew 7

7:1-34— Continuation of the "Sermon on the Mount."

Whereas chapter 5 addressed "personal righteousness," and chapter 6 addressed "personal relationships," chapter 7 addresses <u>"personal responsibilities."</u>

7:1-5 — The responsibility to be slow in finding *fault with others*.

The word for "judge" here implies contempt.

Jesus's teaching instructs us to look first at ourselves.

7:6 – The responsibility to not waste time and effort on those who are *hostile to the gospel*.

7:7-11 – The responsibility to <u>pray without ceasing.</u>

7:12 – The responsibility to treat all others *lovingly*.

7:13-14 – The responsibility to be *discerning*.

7:15-20 – The responsibility to assess *pastors and teachers*.

7:21-23 — The responsibility to assess *yourself first*.

7:24-29 – The responsibility to hold yourself accountable.