

HOW TO QUIT PLAYING GOD
Developing a Faith That Works - Part 11
James 4:11-12

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James 4:11-12

"Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you -- who are you to judge your neighbor?" (vs. 11b & 12)

WE'RE PLAYING GOD WHEN WE _____

I. WHY DO WE LIKE TO JUDGE OTHERS?

1. _____

"So when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them, and yet do the same thing, do you think you will escape God's judgment?" Romans 2:3

2. _____

"Gossip is so tasty! How we love to swallow it!" Prov. 26:22 (GN)

II. WHY SHOULD I NOT JUDGE OTHERS?

* It is _____

"Brothers do not slander ... anyone who speaks against his brother or judges his brother ... "

* It is _____

"Anyone who ... judges, speaks against the law ... " (vs. 11), James 2:8

* It is _____

"There is only one Lawgiver and Judge ... who are you to judge your neighbor?"

III. WHAT IS REVEALED WHEN WE JUDGE OTHERS?

Luke 15:25-32 –The Story of the “other” Son

²⁵ “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹ “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.’ ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

1. We're _____ from the focus of the father. (vv. 25-27)

2. We're _____ to the Father (vv. 28, 29)

3. We _____ our own faults (v. 30)

4. We are _____ with what we have. (v. 31, 29)

IV. HOW TO BREAK THE HABIT OF JUDGING OTHERS

1. Remember _____

"Do not judge others, so that God will not judge you, for God will judge you in the same way you judge others, and he will apply to you the same rules you apply to others." Matt. 7:1-2

2. Remember _____

"Every one of us, then, will have to give an account of himself to God. So then, let us stop judging one another." Rom. 14:12-13

3. Remember _____

"... Mercy triumphs over judgment." James 2:13

Parable of Unforgiving Servant -- Matt. 18:21-35

He has commissioned us to _____ TO everybody, NOT _____ everybody.