Don't Judge – Love!
Matthew 7:1-12
September 8, 2013

Main Point:
Rely upon God's enabling grace to love others instead of sinfully judging them.

1. You are not to judge others.

2. Certain kinds of judgments are not sinful.

3. Instead of judging others, Jesus calls us to love others.

4. Rely upon God's enabling grace to love others instead of sinfully judging them.

Quotations and Cross-References

Romans 14:1-4 1 Receive one who is weak in the faith, *but* not to disputes over doubtful things. 2 For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats *only* vegetables. 3 Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. 4 Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls … (NKJV)

John Legg "We are not judges of others, but fellow-sinners."

John 7:24 24 "Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment." (NKJV)

Dan Doriani "Jesus prohibits a critical spirit, but does not forbid all use of the critical faculty."

Romans 13:10 10 Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love *is* the fulfillment of the law. (NKJV)

Mark Ross "The way of love demands moral evaluation, not turning a blind eye to the sins of others; but it also demands that the moral evaluation proceed from a heart of love, free from self-righteousness, and aimed at helping the other person, not condemning him."

John Legg "If we are conscious of our own need for forgiveness, we shall not lightly condemn others."

Sinclair Ferguson "The heart that has tasted the Lord's grace and forgiveness will always be restrained in its judgment of others. It has seen itself deserving judgment and condemnation before the Lord, and yet, instead of experiencing his burning anger, has tasted his infinite mercy."

Luke 11:9-13 9 "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 11 "If a son asks for bread[1] from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if *he asks* for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? 12 "Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (NKJV)

Dan Doriani "All three instructions [ask, seek, knock] invite us to plead with God for aid when we face Jesus' commands. We ask for his saving grace, to forgive our sins. We ask for the Holy Spirit to enable us to obey Jesus' commands, at least a little more, day by day."

John Broadus "One may be a truly industrious man, and yet poor in temporal things; but one cannot be a truly praying man, and yet poor in spiritual things."