

## JUDGE NOT!!!

(Luke 6:37-42)

From time to time you will hear it said of a famous person, “he never forgot where he came from.” This is always meant as a compliment. People dearly love when a person of renown remembers the humble circumstances of his beginnings. Perhaps it was a little town with many unknown people...don’t forget where you came from.

In the midst of His “Sermon on the Plain,” Jesus likewise warns us, as believers, to never forget our origins. To never forget “the pit from which we were dug,” for we were lost sinners under God’s judgment.

We are not to be judgmental. Rather we should treat others with a gracious, loving, and forgiving spirit.

### THREE WARNINGS HELPING US TO AVOID HAVING A JUDGMENTAL ATTITUDE

**WITH OTHERS.** To refuse this means we have forgotten our original condition.

#### I. **Jesus Warns That We Will Be Judged By The Same Standard We Use With Others. (vv.37-38)**

A. In the strongest words, Jesus tells us not to judge others. He draws a contrast between two attitudes of the heart.

1. The attitude of judging and condemning. Many are quick to criticize...
2. The attitude of giving and forgiving. This gives others the room to grow...

B. Note what this command does NOT mean:

1. It does not mean we are to avoid making proper spiritual discrimination. We are to “test” all things by the Word of God. (1 John 4:1) Don’t be naive.
2. It does not mean that a church should avoid church discipline.
3. It does not mean that believers should never evaluate and criticize anyone for anything. “Live and let live, don’t judge.” NO!!! To never make any moral judgments is to make good and evil equal. Jesus did not mean this at all by His words here.

C. Jesus uses the word “judge” and it means to render a self-righteous, often hasty, unmerciful attitude in condemning others. The whole process exalts oneself by disparaging others.

1. We must not be judgmental. Why?  
We can never know a person’s motives. Never. Only God knows the heart.  
Often our judgment is upside-down. We make much of the little sins of others, while neglecting our own greater sin.
2. Rather, we must be generous with others, by giving and forgiving. (Like Jesus!!!)

D. The motivation for this is in knowing that we will be treated just as we treat others. (v.38)

