

Jesus on Judging

Matthew 7:1-6

A few caveats before you judge:

1. The standard you use will be _____ (v1-2)

2. You need to deal with _____ first (v3-5)

3. There's a difference between judging and _____ (v6)

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT:

1. How have you seen Mt 7:1 used? Is this verse a prohibition of judgment? Explain your answer.
2. According to verse 2, what should we be prepared for as we make judgments? Does that bring to mind any practical guidelines we ought to put in place?
3. What judgment is Jesus talking about in verses 1 and 2? See also Romans 2:1-5, 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 and 11:27-32.
4. What's the point of Mt 7:3-5? Why do we need to deal with the log before dealing with the speck? Why does Jesus call the person with the log a hypocrite?
5. Read verse 6. Why would a real pig trample pearls? Why would it then turn and attack you? How does this apply to real people? What would be a practical application of throwing pearls to pigs today?
6. Read 2 Samuel 12:1-7a. What was Nathan's strategy in confronting David? How does the way we deliver judgment matter? What do you suppose might have happened if Nathan had come to David with just an accusation? Can you think of a time when a confrontation went poorly? How might you do it differently next time? Do you have a Nathan in your life, who cares enough to tell you the truth you're not seeing? Do you welcome his input?