



the
JESUS
MANIFESTO

Do Not Judge

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Matthew 7:1-2 NLT

"Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged."

When Jesus says, "do not judge" he isn't saying, "don't hold people accountable." Or "don't ever have a disagreement." Rather, He is referring to our tendency to feel superior to another, to condescend, or to even reject and condemn others because of our perceived differences or disagreement with them.

In one word, Jesus is referring to **condemnation**.

Matthew 7:3-5 NLT

"And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own? How can you think of saying to your friend, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye."

Dallas Willard

“Condemnation is the board in your eye. He knows that the mere fact that we are condemning someone shows our heart does not have the Kingdom rightness He has been talking about. Condemnation, especially with usual accompaniments of anger and contempt and self-righteousness, blinds us to the reality of the other person.

We cannot “see clearly” how to assist our brother, because we cannot see our brother. And we will never know how to truly help him until we have grown into the kind of person who does not condemn. Period. “Getting the board out” is not a matter of correcting something that is wrong in our life so that we will be able to condemn our dear ones better – or more effectively, so to speak.”

Apprenticeship Prayer Partner Question:

“Am I honoring those who see things differently than I do or who are living differently than I am, in the way I behave towards them publicly and the way I speak about them privately?”

Matthew 7:6 NLT

"Don't waste what is holy on people who are unholy. Don't throw your pearls to pigs! They will trample the pearls, then turn and attack you."

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Dallas Willard

“The problem with pearls for pigs is not that the pigs are unworthy. It is not worthiness that is in question here at all, but helpfulness. Pigs cannot digest pearls, cannot nourish themselves on them. The reason these animals will finally “turn and rend you,” when you one day step up to them with another load of pearls, is that, you at least are edible!

And what a picture this is of our efforts to correct and control others by pouring our good things, often truly precious things, upon them—things that they, nevertheless simply cannot ingest and use to nourish themselves. Often, we do not even listen to them. We “know” without listening. Jesus saw it going on around him all the time, as we do today. And the outcome is exactly the same as with the pig. Our good intentions make little difference. The needy person will finally become angry and attack us. The point is not the waste of the “pearl” but that the person given the pearl is not helped.... Frankly, our “pearls” are often offered with a certain superiority of bearing that keeps us from paying attention to those we are trying to help. We have solutions. That should be enough, shouldn’t it? And very quickly some contempt, impatience, anger and even condemnation slips into our offering.

And the very goodness of our “pearl” may make us think that we couldn’t possibly have the wrong attitude toward the intended recipient. Would we be offering them such pearls if our heart were not right? Unfortunately, we just might. It has been done. And how we feel when our “pearl” is left there on the ground to be walked on by the unenthusiastic recipient will be a pretty good sign of where our heart was in the first place.”

How do we offer potentially difficult feedback to someone without being judgmental and condemning?

1. See the person and **LISTEN** to their story.
2. Engage in a **TWO-WAY** conversation.
3. Be quick to **SHARE** from your own experiences.
