

# THE ANATOMY OF A THRIVING CHURCH:

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Moving from Survival Mode to FLOURISHING

Week 4: HOSPITALITY -Part 2 Continued

# NO JUDGEMENT



# Matthew 7:1-5

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“Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For the judgment you give will be the judgment you get, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor’s eye.

## **NO JUDGMENT ZONE (V.1-2)**

JESUS STARTS OUT CHAPTER 7 WITH A VERY IMPORTANT STATEMENT, DO NOT JUDGE OTHERS, AND YOU WILL NOT BE JUDGED. THAT STATEMENT CAUSES US TO ASK TWO CRITICAL QUESTIONS:

# WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO JUDGE SOMEONE?

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IN THIS CONTEXT, THE GREEK WORD FOR JUDGE IN THIS VERSE IS KRINŌ (KREE-NO) WHICH MEANS TO PASS SENTENCE ON OR TO CONDEMN. OFTEN JUDGEMENT IS MADE BASED ON APPEARANCES AND NOT BASED ON BIBLICAL FACTORS.

# WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN JUDGEMENT AND CORRECTION?

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CORRECTION IS THE ACT OF POINTING OUT THE ERROR IN THE ACTIONS OR DECISIONS OF A PERSON BASED ON GODLY STANDARDS. IN OTHER WORDS, IT IS ALWAYS APPROPRIATE TO BE HELP SOMEONE TO IDENTIFY WHEN THEIR ACTIONS ARE NOT IN LINE THE BIBLICAL STANDARDS AS LONG AS WE ARE:

- DOING IT IN LOVE
- POINTING THEM BACK TO GOD
- NOT CONDEMNING THEM
- ALWAYS OPEN FOR RECONCILIATION

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

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I THINK THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO HELP TO KEEP EACH OTHER ACCOUNTABLE TO GOD AND ONE ANOTHER. IN OTHER WORDS, TELLING SOMEONE WHEN THEY ARE WRONG IS NOT JUDGEMENT! MAKING A PERMANENT DETERMINATION ABOUT A PERSON'S SOUL AND/OR THEIR LIFE BASED ON ACTIONS OR OTHER OUTWARD FACTORS IS ALWAYS WRONG.

# REMEMBER THE STANDARD

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V.2 IS ALSO CRITICAL AS JESUS REMINDS US THAT THE SAME STANDARD THAT WE JUDGE OTHERS BY IS THE SAME STANDARD THAT HE IS GOING TO JUDGE US BY. SO WE MIGHT WANT TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT HOW CRITICAL WE ARE OF OTHER PEOPLE AND THEIR ACTIONS. IF WE JUDGE PEOPLE HARSHLY, GOD IS GOING TO DO THE SAME TO US.

# CHECK YOURSELF (V.3-6)

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THESE VERSES SIMPLY REMIND US THAT NONE OF US ARE IN ANY POSITION TO PASS JUDGMENT ON ANYONE ELSE. HE REMINDS US THAT BEFORE WE CAN PASS JUDGMENT OR CONDEMN ANYONE ELSE, IT IS NECESSARY FOR US TO EVALUATE OUR OWN LIVES AND SITUATIONS. AGAIN, AS JESUS IS TEACHING, HE IS ALSO ADDRESSING THE HYPOCRISY OF THE PHARISEES AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS. THEY WERE QUICK TO WANT TO PASS DOWN JUDGMENT AS IF THEY THEMSELVES WERE SINLESS. THE WORD OF GOD TRULY HELPS US TO UNDERSTAND WHO WE ARE AND THAT NONE OF US ARE MEETING HIS STANDARD.

- ROMANS 3:10
- ROMANS 3:23
- ROMANS 5:8
- ROMANS 6:23



# CHECK YOURSELF CONT'D

THESE FIRST 6 VERSES TEACH US THREE IMPORTANT KEYS:

- BE CAREFUL- HOW WE JUDGE OTHERS IS HOW GOD IS GOING TO JUDGE US
- BE FAIR- ALWAYS BE SURE TO LOOK AT THE WHOLE PICTURE. GOD IS A RIGHTEOUS JUDGE.
- BE MINDFUL-BE MINDFUL THAT NO ONE IS PERFECT! NOT EVEN YOU. REMEMBER THAT WE HAVE ALL SINNED AND MADE MISTAKES.

# PRAY UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS (V.7-11)

READING THESE VERSES IN THE NLT HELPS US TO REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT JESUS IS TEACHING HERE BY SIMPLY ADDING ONE KEYWORD, **KEEP!**

- **WHAT SHOULD I BE ASKING GOD FOR?**
  - PROVISION
  - PROTECTION
  - POWER

# WHAT SHOULD I BE SEEKING GOD FOR?

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- DIRECTION
- WISDOM
- UNDERSTANDING
- PURPOSE
- RELATIONSHIP
- REVELATION

# WHAT DOORS SHOULD I BE KNOCKING ON?

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- OPPORTUNITY
- SPIRITUAL GROWTH
- DELIVERANCE
- DISCIPLESHIP
- MINISTRY
- TRANSFORMATION

THE WORD KEEP IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE THE THINGS THAT WE ARE ASKING, SEEKING, AND KNOCKING FOR ARE CONTINUOUS. WE NEVER CEASE TO NEED THESE THINGS. IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO BE PERSISTENT WHEN IT COMES TO RECEIVING WHAT WE NEED FROM GOD. WE MIGHT HAVE TO ASK AND WAIT! WE MIGHT HAVE TO SEEK AND WAIT, AND WE MIGHT HAVE TO KNOCK AND WAIT.

# ALWAYS REMEMBER TWO THINGS:

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- GOD IS NOT ON OUR CLOCK
- ANYTHING THAT WE ASK GOD FOR( THAT IS IN HIS WILL FOR US), HE WILL PROVIDE.

IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT JESUS REFERS TO THE THINGS THAT WE ASK FOR AS GIFTS. GOD WILL BLESS US WITH THE GIFTS THAT WE ASK FOR BUT REMEMBER, ANYTHING THAT HE GIVES US IS FOR THE GLORY OF THE KINGDOM.

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## - **THE GOLDEN RULE(V.12)**

- THIS VERSE IS PRETTY STRAIGHTFORWARD, DO TO OTHERS AND TREAT OTHERS THE WAY THAT YOU WANT TO BE TREATED. AGAIN, THOSE TWO PRINCIPLES ARE AT WORK, LOVE, AND RELATIONSHIP.

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# **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

