

# The Sermon on Judging

*Romans 14*

**Main idea:** Encourage believers not to focus on differences and to avoid judging others

**Topic:** Judging

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Scripture Verses to Support the Sermon on Judging:

1. Matthew 7:1-5 - "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

2. James 4:11-12 - "Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbor?"

3. Luke 6:37-38 - "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

## Language Suggestions from Original Languages:

1. In Matthew 7:1-5, the word "judge" comes from the Greek word "krino," which means to separate, distinguish, or make a distinction. Emphasize that believers should not focus on making unnecessary distinctions or judgments about others.
2. In James 4:11-12, the word "slander" comes from the Greek word "katalaleo," which means to speak against or defame. Highlight the importance of avoiding negative speech and judgmental attitudes towards others.
3. In Luke 6:37-38, the phrase "do not judge" comes from the Greek word "krino," similar to Matthew 7:1-5. Reinforce the message of not making hasty judgments or condemning others.

## Additional Suggestions:

1. Explore the concept of unity in the body of Christ and how judging others can hinder this unity. Use Ephesians 4:1-6 to emphasize the importance of maintaining peace and unity among believers.
2. Discuss the role of love in overcoming judgmental attitudes. Incorporate 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 to highlight the characteristics of love and how they can help believers avoid judging others.

3. Address the dangers of self-righteousness and pride in relation to judging others. Utilize Luke 18:9-14, the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector, to illustrate the importance of humility before God and others.

Remember to weave these additional ideas and Scripture passages into your sermon, reinforcing the main point of encouraging believers not to focus on differences and to avoid judging others.