

# Am I Judgy?

1. Is judging others \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_?

## What Do You Mean by Judge?

2. Vocalized \_\_\_\_\_ = judgement = bad.

3. One sense of the word judge is, “to \_\_\_\_\_”.

- The ability to \_\_\_\_\_ right from wrong and truth from error.

4. Another sense is, “to \_\_\_\_\_”.

- To pass a final \_\_\_\_\_.

5. People also use the word as a catch-all for any type of \_\_\_\_\_ disapproval.

## When it's Right . . . When it's Wrong

6. The words that have led to misunderstanding are Matt. \_\_:\_\_

7. Jesus isn't saying to \_\_\_\_\_ judge.

8. We must be \_\_\_\_\_ to judge – examining \_\_\_\_\_ first.

## Judge the Action

9. Jesus' words in Matthew 7 are speaking about \_\_\_\_\_.

10. Jesus never instructed us to \_\_\_\_\_ another person.

11. When we speak the truth about sin, avoid \_\_\_\_\_.

I. We aren't claiming to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of moral law.

II. We aren't claiming to be a moral \_\_\_\_\_.

III. We aren't claiming to be \_\_\_\_\_ than others.

12. Scripture cautions us not to judge others' \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1 Sam. 16:7

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- Psalms 44:21
- 1 Cor. 4:5
- Hebrews 4:12

13. Focus on judging \_\_\_\_\_. (Matt. 12:33)

## Be Motivated by Love

14. Our own motives are \_\_\_\_\_.

15. Help bring \_\_\_\_\_, not shame. (Matt. 18:15-17)

16. Speaking the truth is about loving \_\_\_\_\_.

## Judging Doctrine

17. There's an underlying perception that Christians should not \_\_\_\_\_ other Christians. That itself is a judgement – which the Bible does not support.

- Eph. 4:11-15
- 2 Tim. 4:2-4

18. We must carefully guard the \_\_\_\_\_ God has given us.

19. Discern truth from error because \_\_\_\_\_ abounds. (1 John 4:1-3)

20. Poor \_\_\_\_\_ leads people away from God. (1 Tim 4:16)

## Key Points

- (a) Jesus's famous words "Do not judge, or you too will be judged" are a prelude to his warning about hypocritical judgment, not all judgment.
- (b) While Jesus instructed us to carefully call out sin (discerning between right and wrong), he never instructed us to condemn another. Only God has the authority to pass a final sentence on a person's life.
- (c) When addressing sin, we should be motivated by love for the other person, seeking to help bring repentance.
- (d) Christians must also judge between right and wrong doctrine because falsehoods abound and poor doctrine can lead people away from God.

How do we talk to our Kids about this?

### Opener

- Eighty-seven percent of young non-Christians say that Christianity is “judgmental.” What do you think they mean by that?
  - *(With younger kids, instead ask if they’ve heard someone say, “Don’t judge me!” and what they think that means.)*

### Going Further

- Read Matthew 7:1–5. What is Jesus saying about when we should and shouldn’t judge others?
  - *(Jesus is warning against hypocritical judgment, but people often stop reading after Matthew 7:1 and think we should never judge at all.)*
- Read James 4:11–12. How is the kind of judgment God has the right to make different from the kind of judgment Jesus told us to make in Matthew 7:1–5?
  - *(Only God has the authority to pass a final judgment on a person’s life. We are not to condemn people in this way.)*
- Imagine that you have a Christian friend who is bullying another kid. Based on the verses we’ve read, what would be a biblical way of addressing their actions with them, and what would be an unbiblical way?
  - *(Biblical: Make sure you’re not guilty of the same sin, confirm your understanding of the situation, pull the friend aside privately, and share that what they’re doing is not right for a Christian. Unbiblical: Not say anything at all, say something in front of everyone to shame them, or tell the friend they’re going to hell.)*
- If you confronted the friend in a biblical way and they replied, “You’re a Christian! You’re not supposed to judge me!” what would you say?
  - *(Explain how the Bible calls us to judge rightly.)*
- Now imagine that you have a Christian friend who believes something about Jesus that’s untrue according to the Bible. Do you think you should say something? Why or why not? And is saying something being “judgmental”?
  - *(It’s judgmental in the sense of discerning between truth and error, and the Bible does call us to that kind of discernment. Read Ephesians 4:11–15; 2 Timothy 4:2–4.)*

### Application

- “I think in general, we judge everyone way more than we should. Jesus never judged, He’s always loved. If we’re trying to live like Jesus, [then] loving is the best thing we can do.” How would you respond?

# Am I Judgy?

1. Is judging others unloving and unbiblical?

## What Do You Mean by Judge?

2. Vocalized disagreement = judgement = bad.
3. One sense of the word judge is, “to discern”.
  - The ability to separate right from wrong and truth from error.
4. Another sense is, “to condemn”.
  - To pass a final sentence.
5. People also use the word as a catch-all for any type of perceived disapproval.

## When it’s Right . . . When it’s Wrong

6. The words that have led to misunderstanding are Matt. 7:1
7. Jesus isn’t saying to never judge.
8. We must be slow to judge – examining ourselves first.

## Judge the Action

9. Jesus’ words in Matthew 7 are speaking about discernment.
10. Jesus never instructed us to condemn another person.
11. When we speak the truth about sin, avoid implication.
  - I. We aren’t claiming to be the source of moral law.
  - II. We aren’t claiming to be a moral authority.
  - III. We aren’t claiming to be better than others.
12. Scripture cautions us not to judge others’ motives.
  - 1 Sam. 16:7

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- Psalms 44:21
- 1 Cor. 4:5
- Hebrews 4:12

13. Focus on judging actions. (Matt. 12:33)

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14. Our own motives are important.

15. Help bring repentance, not shame. (Matt. 18:15-17)

16. Speaking the truth is about loving restoration.

## Judging Doctrine

17. There's an underlying perception that Christians should not judge other Christians. That itself is a judgement – which the Bible does not support.

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- 2 Tim. 4:2-4

18. We must carefully guard the truths God has given us.

19. Discern truth from error because falsehood abounds. (1 John 4:1-3)

20. Poor doctrine leads people away from God. (1 Tim 4:16)

## Key Points

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