SERMON TITLE:

EVERYTHING you always wanted to know about judging others

Who you judge, How you judge and insuring you have the right Heart

IMPORTANT: Two Different Audiences *Pro Jesus and Anti-Jesus*

Pharisees etc..... AND Large Crowds including Jesus' Disciples

THE FIRST GROUP BAD (Pharisees-Religious Leaders) – **HERE: Jesus JUDGES *THEM*** (Hard hearts with LOG IN EYE) HYPOCRITES, REJECTORS of Jesus and His teaching.... *Dogs and Swine with EVIL hearts and Evil Motives, Evil Intentions who would carry out their EVIL and crucify The DIVINE TEACHER JESUS Himself!*

Jesus teachings for The Pharisees were like "pearls of wisdom" before UNCLEAN SWINE who trample NON-FOOD into the mire of feces OR like WILD DOGS who when given food they *reject*, would be so upset they turned on Jesus and tore Him you to pieces... *in fact this was prophetic...*

In *THIS VERY* chapter, Jesus will warn "*again*" of **FALSE PROPHETS (Pharisees)**

STEVE: PowerPoint with Laser Pointer-Interpret for *PHARISEES*

Matt. 7:1 *"Do not judge so that you will not be judged. [2] "For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you. [3] "Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? [4] "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye? [5] "You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye. [6]* ***"Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.***

The Pharisees were judging Christ and finding Him to be inadequate as their Messiah. He was not offering the kind of kingdom they anticipated And *rejected* the kind of righteousness they were exhibiting. So they rejected Him. Jesus therefore warned them against *hypocritical* judging.

REMEMBER: THE SECOND AUDIENCE GROUP (DISCIPLES) –
Jesus INSTRUCTS this audience on Kingdom principles...where judgment that hurts or destroys others is forbidden,

BUT judgment that IF beneficial, *is encouraged!*

STEVE: PowerPoint with Laser Pointer-Interpret for *DISCIPLES*

Matt. 7:1 *"Do not judge* (with malice, or arrogance) *so that you will not be judged.* (by God) [2] *"For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.* (If you judge with Love, forgiveness and Grace, in humility *as taught by Jesus*, you can expect the same from God. However, if judging others with criticism, unforgiveness and a lack of love and grace...you will be judged by God accordingly at the Bema) [3] *"Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?* [4] *"Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye?* [5] *"You hypocrite,* (Because of our sin nature, we seldom look at our OWN SIN, but are quick to point out others and in some cases it is easy to see the fault in others, as it is SO familiar, because we are doing the same thing)

*IF you see PRIDE in others, it is probably very familiar! If we see gossip in others, is it because it is a problem in our own life, but we are blind to it? ☺ first take the **log** out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the **speck** out of your brother's eye.* (So Jesus IS TEACHING the judgment of "Discernment" as good if your heart is to HELP OTHERS *AFTER self-examination*, which means, NEVER throwing someone under the bus for their sin, *especially if you are blind to your own* sin ☺) [6] *"Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.* The pearl of the Gospel is offensive to some, But you don't have to be....*If you have a RECEPTIVE AUDIENCE SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS*...**If someone is UN-receptive DON'T burn a bridge others may be building**...Remember 1 PETER, (With Gentleness and Respect) Otherwise you run the risk of being torn to pieces when the NON-believer FEELS JUDGED!!!!!

JESUS SUMMARY POINT: "Before you become a sin inspector, make sure you're not failing your own inspection."

JUDGEMENT OF OTHERS IS ONE OF THE MOST MISUNDERSTOOD PRACTICES IN THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH!

Today...EVERYTHING you always wanted to know about judging others

Wrong Judging is:

1. Harsh – looking for faults in others ignoring your own!
2. Hypocritical – ignoring my sin while exposing yours
3. Playing God – acting like I know others motives and destiny
4. Self-righteous – "I thank God I'm not like them"

Wrong judging is:

Correction without compassion, mercy or forgiveness
Telling the truth without love, grace and mercy
Standards for others we don't live up to ourselves

Let me give you a few examples....

- Social media theology police
- Watching the news and hating those with different *political* views
- Parents correcting kids with anger not grace
- Christians who talk more about **sin** *than about the Savior*
- Churches that shoot the wounded!!!!!!!!!!

1. **Judging is bad if you judge like the Pharisees ☺**

a. The Pharisees Condemned others to hell-*Just like they did to Jesus*
b. The Pharisee's judged Jesus *teaching* (WORD) *to be of NO value,*
c. They rejected all Jesus teaching professing to be wise in their own minds, they were fools, as they professed themselves to be wiser than God, thus forfeiting their very souls with hearts of stone....

2. **Judging is bad if we have selfish or corrupt motives such as...**
   Exposing the sins of others PUBLICLY as that is called gossip and is sin!
   a. Jesus forbids **hypocritical judgment**, NOT **holy discernment**, therefore we must learn **when to speak and when to stay silent**
   b. When in doubt...STAY SILENT ☺

James 4:11-12 *Do not speak against one another, brethren.* (IN CONTEXT this is speaking against another "publicly", the SIN OF GOSSIP) *He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks against the law* (The Law of Love, called the Royal or Perfect Law by James, because LOVE COVERS A MULTITUDE OF SINS, 1 Cor. 15) *and judges the law; but if you judge the law,* (Law of Love) *you are not a doer of the law but a judge of it. There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy;* (IN CONTEXT- God alone has the authority to Save or Destroy a "Physical Life" of a believer in judgment/discipline) *but who are you who judge your neighbor?*

APPLICATION POINT: When you judge another brother or sister are you doing so through the lens of AGAPE LOVE the way God judges you....AND...Are you LOVING OTHERS the way God loves YOU? ☺

AND IN THE BOOK OF ROMANS

Rom. 14:1 *Now accept the one who is weak in faith, but **not** for the purpose of **passing judgment** on his opinions. 2 One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables only. 3 The one who eats is not to regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat is **not to judge** the one who eats, for God has accepted him. 4 **Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls;** and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand. 5 One person regards one day above another, another regards every day alike. Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind. 6 He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God. 7 For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; 8 for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die,*

we are the Lord's. [9] For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. [10] ***But you, why do you judge your brother?*** *Or you again,* ***why do you regard your brother with contempt?*** ***For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.***

3. **God knows PERFECTLY how to take care of his own children, even unto Divine discipline if necessary, so when in doubt, trust in God's judgment for others living in sin AND PRAY FOR THEM!** ☺

1Cor. 11:27 *Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. [28] But a man must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup. [29] For he who eats and drinks, eats and* ***drinks judgment to himself*** *if he does not judge the body rightly. [30] For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep. [31]* ***But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not be judged****. [32]* ***But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord*** *so that we will not be condemned along with the world.*

RIGHT Judging begins by *SELF EXAMINATION* of the Plank in our own eye:
IE. Examination of SELF for repentance, humility, tears when confronted with the truth... .....***AND prayer before speech***

Here's a Practical Test Before Confronting someone you believe needs the truth in love spoken to them:
ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS

- Have I confessed the sin *in myself?*
- Do I grieve over their sin *or enjoy exposing it?*
- Am I trying to restore them *or just prove I'm right?*
- Would I want to be corrected in the way I'm about to correct another?

4. **Judging is good if it means to have "Godly *discernment"* *to protect YOURSELF OR YOUR FAMILY from Untruth!***

Discernment is the ability to perceive TRUTH, with the ABSENCE of condemnation, in hope of a positive outcome

John 7:24 *"Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with* ***righteous judgment."*** (Ask yourself, how would Jesus treat this sin/sinner?)

5. **The Apostle Paul was adamant about protecting the Gospel, *BUT be careful as you have not been given apostolic authority*...However the point remains to beware of ANYONE Preaching/ teaching a false Gospel**

Gal. 1:8 *But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! [9] As we have said before, so I say again now,* ***if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received****, he is to be accursed!*

6. **Judging (IE. discernment) is "*commanded"* to test for false teaching**

1John 4:1 *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but* ***test the spirits to see whether they are from God****, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.*

7. **Don't judge NON-believers as they are already judged by God,**

You can't help a NON-believer overcome sin in their life as ANY improvement overcoming sin will only prove to be "Temporary" without the Holy Spirit, No one receives the Holy Spirit until they are Born Again Spiritually by Jesus and sealed with the Holy Spirit the moment of their NEW BIRTH....

What NON-believers need most from Christians is to see and experience the unconditional LOVE OF JESUS and encouragement to "Surrender to Christ" for ANY help they might be seeking...

IN OTHER WORDS THEY NEED YOU TO LOVINGLY DISCIPLE THEM *!!!!*

8. **Judging is good if it means you come alongside someone caught in sin for the purpose of helping them overcome their sin,** *WITHOUT THROWING THEM UNDER THE BUS!!!* ***AND "ONLY" after you have removed the LOG IN YOUR OWN EYE!!!!*** ☺

Gal. 6:1-2 *Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass,* ***you who are spiritual****, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and thereby* ***fulfill the law of Christ.***

What do you think the phrase, "You, who are spiritual" mean?

Gal. 5:19 *Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing,* ***and things like these****, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22* ***But the fruit of the Spirit*** *is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. 26 Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.*

POINT: When seeking to help another, one must exercise care to do what would be appreciated and beneficial

In Closing:

Imagine two people walking into an emergency room.
One is a **crime scene investigator**.
The other is an **ER doctor**.
They both look at the same bleeding patient.

The investigator says:
"Who caused this? How did this happen? Whose fault is it?"

The doctor says:
"Get me gauze. We need to stop the bleeding."

Wrong judging is like the investigator —
He focused on **blame**.

Right judging is like the doctor —
He focused on **healing**.

Jesus isn't telling us to ignore sin.
He's telling us to treat sinners like patients, not criminals.

The church is supposed to be a hospital, not a courtroom.