



## REPLENISHED – Judging Matters 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021 Mark Wiltshire

This Study Guide provides a summarised study with additional discussion questions based on the scriptures mentioned in the sermon.

### Connect:

1. Read [Proverbs 4:5](#)
2. What are your judgements based on?
3. What areas of life require good judgement?

### Engage:

4. Read and discuss [Matthew 7:1-5](#)
5. Have you ever listened to a preach/message thinking, 'I wish so-and-so had shown up for church today'?
6. Matthew 7:1 is a warning from Jesus Himself! We can't possibly fully know another people's hearts, or motives.
7. How does God respond to us judging others?
8. Is it now or in eternity?
9. Read [Matthew 12:36](#)
10. "It's always the ones who know the least about you who judge you the most." Is this true, or do those who know us well like to judge us?
11. Read [1 Corinthians 5:1](#)
  - Corinth - danger of becoming a 'spiritually proud' church (v.2)
  - So visible, people reported it to Paul – Church appeared to ignore it
  - The church was told to meet and take action, if not, everyone could be damaged if ignored (v.4)

### Framework:

12. Read and discuss [Matthew 18:15](#)
13. How should you handle difficult situations?
  - If SIN isn't the issue be very careful – may just have a criticism about another person... risk of being carelessly 'judgemental'.
  - Sometimes people just get things wrong – majority of issues are accidental.
  - Handle people with care!

14. Read [Galatians 6:1](#)
15. How can you support someone else's recovery (from the damage of sin)?
- Careful Response: Gentleness and humility – NOT condemning and NOT for public discussion (*PRAYER and CARE*).
  - Careful around SIN: has power to attract – be very careful about temptation.
16. What's the difference between someone who is 'battling' with sin and someone who is 'overcome' by sin?
17. What projection can we put in place to stop being drawn into temptation when we are helping others?
18. Matthew 7:2 – 'Standards of Judgement':
- Judging assumes a divine prerogative – We step into being God.
  - Judging another person is a provocative action – And will get a reaction.
19. Read [Luke 6:37](#)
20. What is 'judging'?
- Greek: *krinō*– Makes distinction between 2 things to separate, to pick out, select, choose, approve.
  - To 'try', 'condemn' and by implication, 'punish' (sentence)
  - Judgement speaks of a guilty verdict (without a Jury)
  - To conclude what is true and final on a matter
  - To pronounce an opinion concerning right and wrong

“When we Judge we demonstrate “Uncalled-for Criticism””

When Jesus says do not judge, He is NOT telling us to ignore what is wrong, He is saying not to administer any uncalled-for criticism.”

R T Kendall

21. Why do we judge others?
- **It's easy** – Anyone can find fault, not everyone can build others (lowest form of correction, doesn't guide or solve – just points the finger).
  - **To deflect** from one's own pain – Look to create pain in others (I feel better) overlooking our own major failings (often hidden).
  - **Jealousy/Envy** – I want what someone else has – if I can't have what they have (success) I will make sure they pay a price (resentment).
  - **Need for Superiority**, we put the other person down. I can see what you can't see.
  - **Lack wisdom** – We react with incomplete understanding of a situation; a distorted view of circumstances. Most judgments are made based on an outward appearance. Usually counter-productive!
  - **Lack Self-control** – Probably started to become too critical, too often (habit developing).
  - **Forget our Own Forgiveness** - God's Grace to us.

"Judging often has less to do with the other person, it says more about me!"  
Pastor Mark Wiltshire

22. Read [Revelations 12:10](#)
23. How can we avoid being caught in the trap of 'the accuser'?
24. Read [Isaiah 58:9](#)

"Judging others makes us blind, whereas love is illuminating.  
By judging others, we blind ourselves to our own evil, and to the grace which others are just as  
entitled to as we are."  
Dietrich Bonhoeffer

25. (Matthew 7:3-5) Ask yourself, what 'log' do I deserve judgment for right now? What needs to change?

## Conclusion:

Remember: We rationalise away our own guilt but not that of others.  
Let God be God...

1. **Let Grace Flow:** We all need forgiveness (grace) – must be willing to forgive others.  
[Forgive others and you will be forgiven. Luke 6:37](#)
2. **Let Goodness Grow:** We can all chose to encourage and build others. [1 Thessalonians 5:11](#) "...encourage each other and build each other up.."  
Work with what God is doing in someone's life – not against it!  
Enemy wants your criticism and judgemental attitude!
3. **Let God's Judgement Show:** In His own way and time.

We WILL be Replenished as we stop trying to be God!  
Pastor Mark Wiltshire