

The Heart of Judgment
Matthew 7:1-6

Pastor Malcolm
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Open Your Heart and Mind

- How are you praying for RMBC?

Finding God in His Word (Read Matthew 7:1-6)

- Share a story of having wrongly judged someone in your life. What were the circumstances? What were some of the things you judged the person on? What changed your judgment of the person?
- Have you ever had someone say to you not to judge them? What was the context? Were they correctly assessing your attitude in the judgment?
- Why do you think we are quick to judge others? Why do you think people gravitate towards inappropriate ways of judging others?
- Pastor Malcolm spoke of three attitudes inappropriate in judging others: superficial attitudes, graceless attitudes, and self-righteous attitudes. What other inappropriate attitudes would you add to the ways we wrongly judge people?
- What are your thoughts regarding Jesus' warning in verse 2, "... *with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged...*"? In what way(s) have you seen this work out in your own life?
- As you assess yourself, why do you find it difficult to see the log in your own eye, but easy to focus on the speck in another's?
- What ways have you found that help you to deal with the log in your own eye first? How does this help with being able to assist someone in removing the speck from their eye?
- Why do you think Jesus gives the warning He does in verse 6?
- Why is the warning in verse 6 appropriate as we talk about judging others? Why is it a God-honoring attitude to refrain from correcting those who are uncorrectable? What purpose(s) could this serve to the resistant person? To the person who is seeking to do the correcting? How do you determine when it is time to "walk away"?

Live the Christ Life

1. What attitudes do you need to work on in your own life and interactions with people to obey Jesus' teaching on judging?
2. How can you become more aware of judgmental attitudes in your life?