

## Peace in our time

### Matthew 7:1-6 – Judging others

<sup>1</sup> “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. <sup>2</sup> For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

<sup>3</sup> “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? <sup>4</sup> 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?

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> “Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

1. How would you like to be corrected or judged by another? What would make that experience a positive one? verses 1-2
2. Do we see the flaws in other more than our own? verses 3-4
3. How important is the practise of self-reflection, in understanding our motives or reactions?
4. How does the plank stop you from seeing clearly? What would a real life example of this look like? verse 5
5. Discuss this list in light of verse 5:
  - We break this command when we think the worst of others.
  - We break this command when we only speak to others of their faults.
  - We break this command when we judge an entire life only by its worst moments.
  - We break this command when we judge the hidden motives of others.
  - We break this command when we judge others without considering ourselves in their same circumstances.
  - We break this command when we judge others without being mindful that we ourselves will be judged.
6. How has the practise of being judgmental as a church damaged us?
7. Why is Judging others such a difficult thing for us?
8. What does Jesus mean by “pearls to swine”? verse 6
9. What might be a real world example of this?