

LIVING THE KINGDOM LIFE

Judging - 10/13/19

OVERVIEW

We often judge people according to preconceived ideas we've developed over time. We have put labels on people based on their outward appearance, momentary encounters with them, or even from watching them from afar. The outgoing extrovert must be shallow, and probably lacks the ability to form deep relationships. Those who are not well put together probably let themselves go a long time ago. Wealthy people are surely the happiest people around—they want for nothing! What if we could see through the outer layer and see their heart? What if we looked at each other the way God looks at people?

Scripture: Revelation 11:15 (NASB); Matthew 7:1-6 (NASB); John 7:24 (ESV); James 4:11-12 (NLT)

APPLICATION

- Maybe it's on a team at work, in a homework group at college, or during a church Bible study, but where in your life do you struggle with judging other people harshly? What about this environment makes you more prone to judging?
- What is one thing you've learned about what the Bible says about judging?
- Matthew 7:1-6 talks about how to judge: take the log out of your eye before helping someone else with the speck in their eye. In other words, we are to judge, but we are not to be judgmental. How do you know the difference between the two in your own life? How do you practically eliminate judgment from your life?
- What is one thing you can do this week that would change the way you judge other people? Or, as Woody might say, what window in your life do you need to clean?
- HOMEWORK: Woody said to "Stop and think before you react. Entertain the possibility that you don't have the whole story." This week be intentional about your thought patterns. This takes daily practice. In those moments where you fall short, confess to God and start again.