

**Specks & Planks**  
**Matthew 7:1-5 (Lk 6:41-42)**  
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what we can learn from the warning from Christ about judging.

Intro: 1.

I. The illustration (Mt 7:1-5)

A. The speck

1. A matter that is small enough someone would have to look very closely to find it.
2. Such matters are often personal struggles of which few or no one is aware.

B. The beam

1. The KJV calls it a mote here and a beam in Lk 6.
2. Obvious sin that can be clearly seen.
3. It would be hard to listen to someone guilty of the same sin condemning us for taking part.

II. The guilty ought not to judge others.

A. Guilty sinners must not judge

1. We cannot condemn others of errors that we ourselves are committing.
2. We may be able to understand those who are struggling with sin that we have struggled with in the past, but the must be part of our past not our present.

B. Hypocrisy is condemned

1. We must not put the magnifying glass on the sin of others while our own sins can be seen from space.
2. This is not to say we cannot judge others righteously, but we must keep a close eye on our faults as well.
3. When it comes to being a hypocrite Christ warns us not to be one of them.

III. Lessons for Us Today

A. Strive to avoid hypocrisy.

1. We cannot be blind to our own faults.
2. We must be self-aware before we can be aware of the struggles of others.

B. The right kind of help is needed.

1. The wise and blameless can help those who are struggling with sin.
2. A drowning man attempting to save another drowning man will not be successful.

Application & Conclusion:

1. We must help from a point of a helpful brother in Christ not a hypocrite with a microscope.
2. One of the aims for the Christian is to help one another get to heaven, hypocritical judgments are only a stumbling block.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9