

**The Sermon on the Mount – Lesson 11**  
**Matthew 7:1-12**  
**By Russell Earl**

Thesis: I want to show the commands Christ gave concerning judging, persistent prayer, & the treatment of others.

Intro: 1.  
2.

I. Judging

A. Judge not..(v.1-2)

1. “A text out of context is a pretext to religious error”. We know we have heard this verse used to say we should not judge anyone for any reason. Does the text support this idea? NO!
2. If verse one does **not** tell us not to judge then what is the text teaching us?
  - a. Consider the context (v.2). What is being considered? The judgment with which we judge others is compared.
  - b. How we judge others is how we too will be judged (v.2b). So are we told not to judge? No (v.3-4)! We are commanded **not to judge in a hypocritical way**.

B. The TOO COMMON judgments (v.3-4)

1. **John 7:24** (also compare Jn 7:24 NLTversion)
2. A person cannot help others fairly or righteously when you are overburdened with your own flaws (sin).

C. The CURE for the COMMON judgment (v.5-6)

1. What does Christ say is the cure for the COMMON (unrighteous) judgment?  
Repentance of one’s own sins. (v.5). A person is not required to be flawless to correct error, but he must be blameless in a relative sense (being a penitent person).
2. Some judgment is demanded; sometimes you may encounter dogs or swine; when these people are identified it is then wise to direct your attention elsewhere to avoid becoming entangled in harmful debate (v.6).

II. Persistence

A. Asking, seeking and knocking (v.7-8)

1. The words “asking, seeking & knocking” are commands that show persistent action “keep on asking; seeking; and knocking”. Real faith does not grow weak because a prayer is not answered immediately.
2. Here Jesus goes from the lesser to the greater- meaning if we, being inferior to God, treat our own children kindly, surely the Father will not neglect His family (v.9-11)

B. Golden Rule (v.12)

1. This verse is used as the closing statement in this section of Christ’s lesson.
2. The way we desire others to treat us should be what drives us in how we treat others.
  - a. If we want to be treated kindly, we must treat others kindly (**Pro 18:24**).

Application & Conclusion:

- 1.
- 2.
3. Full Invitation