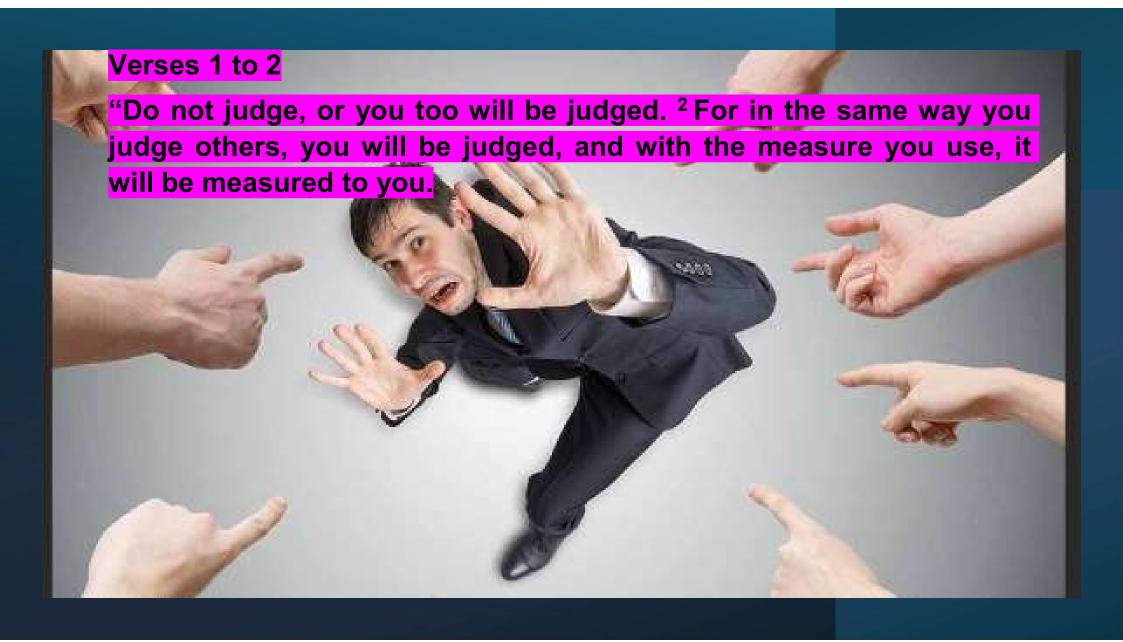
The Book of Matthew



Chapter 7 Verses 1-14

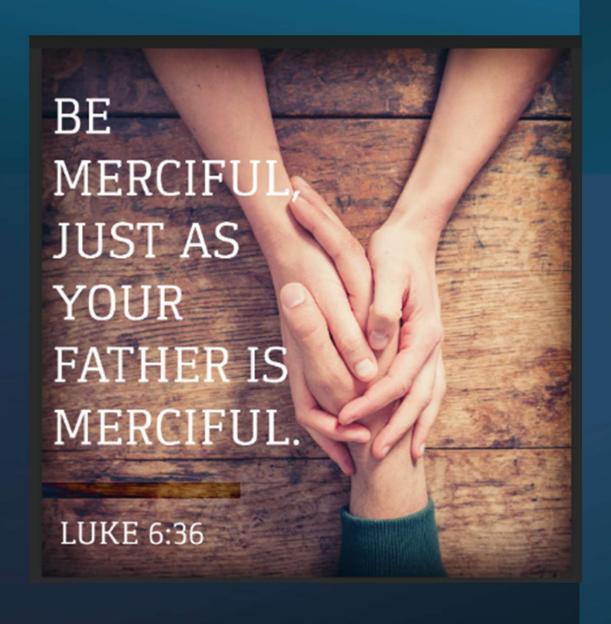
Relationships in the Kingdom

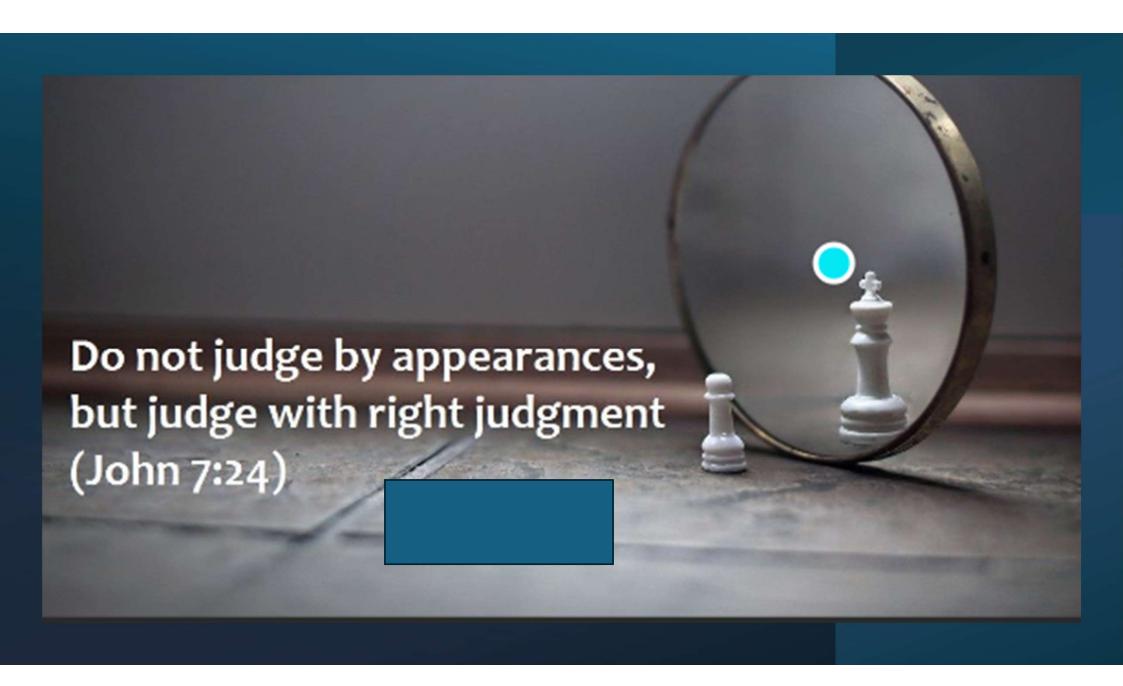
Category	References
Brothers	v 1-5
"dogs and pigs"	v 6
Our Heavenly Father	v 7-11
Everyone in general	v 12
Journeying with Jesus	v 13, 14



Relationships in the Kingdom: Brother to brother

- Do not judge as the Pharisees do-By the Law and not reflecting God's purpose and grace
- As you judge, you will be judged in return.
 The nature and basis by which you judge will be used for the judgment of your brother to you.
 - 3. As you judge, judge yourself first, and do not be hypocritical like so many.







Romans 2:21-24

- "21 you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal?
- ²² You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery?

You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?

- ²³ You who brag about the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law?
- ²⁴ As it is written: "God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you."



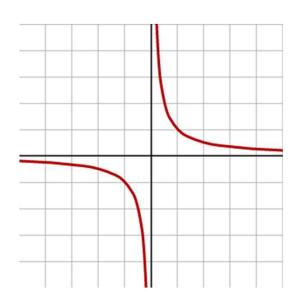
³ "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Relationships in the Kingdom: Brother to brother

- 3. As you judge, judge yourself first and. Figure of speech: Combined hyperbole & metaphor
- 4. Do not be hypocritical like so many



- •Hyperbole: This is an intentional exaggeration to emphasize a point. The comparison between a small "speck" and a large "beam" is meant to dramatically highlight the inconsistency of focusing on minor faults in others while ignoring significant faults in oneself.
- •Metaphor: Jesus uses the imagery of a "beam" and a "speck" as metaphors for moral or spiritual faults. The "beam" represents one's own significant flaws, while the "speck" symbolizes the minor flaws in others.





Relationships in the Kingdom:

Discernment in who you share holy and precious truths with

- Difficult passage for our ears today
- ·Interpret based on how it would be heard by His audience
- ·Understand as a metaphor within the immediate context
- ·Understand as proverbial language as well
- ·Be very careful in how it is applied today

Metaphor:

<u>Dogs</u> in the times of Jesus were mostly wild stray scavengers and often dangerous hungry beasts, seen as "unclean" by Jewish culture

<u>Pigs</u> were also "unclean" in Jewish dietary laws

Proverbial Language: A statement that is commonly known because it expresses a truth or wisdom that is memorable.





Interpretation:

Be discerning in your relationships as to who are expected to trample underfoot and possibly be dangerous as His disciples encourage them towards Jesus.

Application:

Be discerning in sharing what is holy and precious to God to those who are receptive to Him in your relationships







Relationships in the Kingdom: With our Heavenly Father

Vs 7-11

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

"Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone?

Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake?

If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

Relationships in the Kingdom: With our Heavenly Father

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Our relationship with our Father is:

Direct

Via our continuous praying

making requests

seeking with intent

persistent reliance on His response

Based on assurance promises to all who are in relationship to Him

Modelled on analogy to our human parents

Contrasted in the analogy to our always Good Father to

flawed human parents (how much more)
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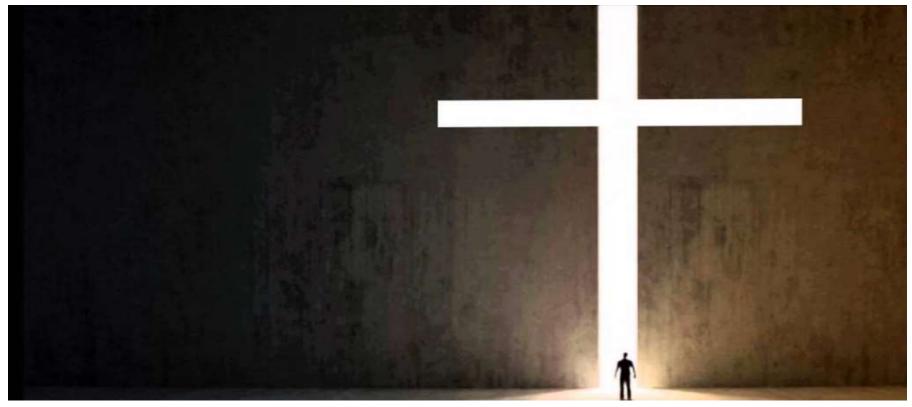
(John 6:37), "All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away."

(Rev. 22:17), "The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life."

(Romans 10:13) "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"

V 12 So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.





¹³"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."