



Recap from
last week's study:

Why Worry?

Matthew 6:25-34

- Cease from striving. Enter into God's rest.
- Little faith is due to having a dull ear to hear God's voice.

TRUSTING GOD'S JUSTICE

RELEASING CONTROL & EMBRACING GROWTH



1"Do not judge, or you too will be judged. 2For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to 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? 4How 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? 5You 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.

6"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.

Cross-Reference

- **1 Corinthians 4:5** Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart. At that time each will receive their praise from God.
- **Romans 8:28** And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.



LET'S EXPLORE MATTHEW 7:1-6

Observe:

- Verses 1-2: *"Judge"* in the concordance (Strong's Greek 2919 - krinete - κρίνετε) means = Properly, to distinguish, i.e. Decide; by implication, to try, condemn, punish.
 - Who is all-seeing and a more accurate judge? Us or God?
- Verse 3:
 - *"Eye"* in the concordance (Strong's Greek 3788 ὀφθαλμός - ophthalmos) means = the mind's eye.
 - *"Brother"* in the concordance (Strong's Greek 80 ἀδελφοῦ - adelphou) means = A brother, member of the same religious community, especially a fellow-Christian. A brother near or remote.
 - Observe the comparison of size what Jesus says is in your eye vs. your *"brother's"*.
- Verse 4: Read verse 4 in your Bible again, slowly.
 - Note: Jesus is addressing our excuse / justification for judging as mere *"I'm just trying to help my brother by pointing in out."*
- Verse 5: Jesus makes a strong statement by declaring the proper priority of our efforts.
 - Read Romans 2:3 and James 4:11
- Verse 6: Regarding *"Give not that which is holy unto dogs"* - Benson Commentary notes: *That is, talk not of the deep things of God to those whom you know to be wallowing in sin; neither declare the great things God hath done for your soul, to the profane and furious.*

Interpret:

- What do you believe all of these verses mean?
- What is God speaking to you personally through this study?
- Read a trusted commentary and compare to your interpretation.



NOW, LET'S READ THE AFTER-SUMMARY TOGETHER

Matthew 7:1-6 and 1 Corinthians 4:5 remind us of the importance of examining our own lives instead of passing judgment on others. Jesus warns against judging others because the same measure we use will be used on us. These passages encourage us to deal with the "log" in our own heart's eye before trying to remove the "speck" in someone else's. God sees the heart and motives, understanding the deeper reasons behind actions in a way we cannot. This highlights God as a just judge, capable of handling what is beyond our understanding. We're called to trust that He will handle others while we focus on refining our own character.

Romans 8:28 offers a comforting assurance that God will work all things together for our good, but it's conditional upon our love and trust in Him. In situations where we feel wronged or victimized, it can be tempting to hold onto control or feel the need to seek justice ourselves. But this verse calls us to a higher trust, knowing that God is weaving our experiences—even the painful ones—into a purpose that benefits us, often in ways we can't yet see. The promise isn't a free pass; it's a call to live in integrity, walking faithfully in our calling and believing that God's justice and grace are at work behind the scenes.

This approach allows us to let go of resentment, releasing the need to correct or hold onto every wrong done to us. It acknowledges that while we might feel we deserve to take action, our time and energy are better spent cultivating our own growth and alignment with God's purpose. Instead of focusing on others' faults, we focus on becoming the people we're called to be, trusting that God sees everything clearly and will deal justly in His own time.

As we grow into this mindset, we realize the freedom it offers. When we release control, trusting God's work in both our lives and in others', we find peace and purpose. God's justice isn't for us to manage, but His love is our strength to endure, transform, and ultimately fulfill our highest potential.



APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- **Reflection on Self-Judgment:** In what areas of your life do you tend to judge others rather than focusing on your own growth? How can you shift that energy toward self-improvement and alignment with your purpose this week?
- **Trust in God's Justice:** Think about a recent situation where you felt wronged or hurt. What would it look like to let go of control and trust God to handle it instead? How might this shift in perspective bring you peace, and what steps can you take to actively release your need to seek justice?
- **Living with Integrity & Purpose:** Reflect on a challenging situation you are currently facing. How can you maintain integrity and faith in God's promises, trusting that He will work this for your good? In what ways can you demonstrate love and trust in God even if you don't yet see a positive outcome?

Closing Prayer...

Lord, thank You for being a just and faithful judge who knows every heart. Help me to release my need to control or judge others, remembering that You see and understand more than I ever could. Guide me to focus on my own growth, removing any "logs" in my eyes, and aligning my life with the purpose You have called me to. Give me the humility and courage to examine my heart honestly, trusting that You will handle others justly and with mercy.

Father, I trust that You are working all things together for my good, even the moments when I feel hurt or victimized. Teach me to let go and lean into Your promises, knowing that You are shaping these experiences for a purpose beyond my understanding. Strengthen me to walk in integrity and love, believing that as I surrender to You, You will bring beauty and redemption from every challenge. Thank You for Your wisdom, justice, and unwavering love.