Seeing Clearly: Lessons from the Gospels on Judgment



Explore the Gospels through Luke 6:39—42 to learn how to judge yourself before others and grow in humility and love.





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Introduction

Welcome to this 3-day Bible study on the theme of judgment as taught in the Gospels, focusing especially on Luke 6:39–42. Throughout the four Gospels — Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John — Jesus provides profound teachings on how we should view and treat others. Among these teachings, the passage about the speck and the log reveals a compelling truth about humility and self-examination before judging others.

In Luke 6:39–42, Jesus uses vivid imagery to describe the common human tendency to quickly point out the minor faults in others while ignoring our own, much larger flaws. This lesson challenges us to first look inward, acknowledge our own shortcomings, and remove them before attempting to correct someone else's behavior.

This message is not about condemning others but about fostering a spirit of grace, self-awareness, and genuine love. The Gospels frequently emphasize mercy and forgiveness, reminding us that God's judgment is tempered by His immense compassion. As you embark on this study, consider how Jesus' words encourage us to hold a mirror to ourselves with courage and kindness.

Each day, we will explore key Gospel passages that highlight different aspects of judgment — from recognizing our own faults, responding to others with empathy, to following Jesus' example of grace. Through Scripture, reflection, and prayer, we'll discover how to live out these teachings in our everyday







relationships, learning to judge rightly so that we may become more like Christ.

Let this study inspire you to deepen your understanding of God's heart and to cultivate a humble, forgiving spirit in your life.















Your Verse

Luke 6:39-42 NIV - 'Jesus also told them this parable... "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?"'

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 7:3-5 "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?"
- James 1:22 "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."







Devotional: Recognizing Our Own Faults First

In Luke 6:39–42, Jesus challenges our instinct to judge others quickly and harshly. The metaphor of the speck and the plank forces us to confront a deep truth: often, we notice small faults in others while ignoring our much bigger flaws. This passage calls for honest self-assessment.

When we judge others without first examining ourselves, we risk hypocrisy. Jesus wants us to practice humility — to look honestly at our own sins and weaknesses. This doesn't mean ignoring sin, but rather addressing our own heart issues before correcting someone else.

Why is this important? Because recognizing our imperfections softens us. It leads to empathy rather than condemnation. When we acknowledge our need for grace, we can extend that grace freely to others.

Today's reflection invites you to pause and ask: What are some 'logs' in my eye? What attitudes or behaviors might I be overlooking or excusing? By identifying these, we open the door to real growth and healthier relationships.







Reflect and Apply

1.	How do I typically respond when I notice faults in others?
2.	What are some areas in my life where I might have 'logs' that I haven't addressed?
3.	How can acknowledging my faults change the way I interact with others?
4.	In what ways can humility help me grow spiritually and relationally?













Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a recent time when you judged someone quickly. What might you have overlooked in yourself?
2.	List three areas in your life where you feel God is calling you to self-examination.
3.	Describe how remembering your own faults affects your prayer life and attitude towards others.







Prayer for Today

Lord, help me to see myself clearly. Remove the obstacles that blind me to my own faults so I can approach others with grace and humility. Teach me to follow Jesus' example of love before judgment and to recognize that I am as much in need of Your mercy as anyone. *May my heart be soft and my eyes gentle.* In Jesus' name, amen.







Day 2: 🍑 Judging with Mercy and Grace









Day 2: 🎔 Judging with Mercy and Grace

Your Verse

John 8:1-11 NIV - 'Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.'

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 7:1-2 "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged..."
- Romans 2:1 "You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else..."







Day 2: 🍑 Judging with Mercy and Grace

Devotional: Extending Grace When We Judge

The story of the woman caught in adultery in John 8 stands as a powerful reminder about judgment and mercy. When the religious leaders brought this woman before Jesus, they attempted to force a harsh judgment on her. Yet Jesus, aware of their own sinfulness, replied with profound wisdom: 'Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.'

This moment reveals the heart of gospel-centered judgment — it's tempered by mercy, compassion, and humility. Jesus never condoned sin, yet He kept a loving and non-condeming stance, inviting each person to reflect on their own need for grace.

How can we mimic this attitude when we evaluate others? It means holding firm to truth but responding with empathy rather than condemnation. Recognizing our shared brokenness can soften our hearts and help us advocate restoration over punishment.

As you reflect today, consider how Jesus' example might influence how you approach difficult situations involving others. How can mercy and grace inform your judgments?







Day 2: 🎔 Judging with Mercy and Grace

Reflect and Apply

1.	In what ways do I find it difficult to show mercy when judging others?
2.	How does recognizing my own sinfulness help me extend grace to others?
	When have I experienced judgment without mercy, and how did it affect me?
4.	How can I balance truth and compassion in my daily relationships?







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Day 2: 🍑 Judging with Mercy and Grace

Journaling Prompts

Write about a time when you received mercy instead of judgment. How did it change you?
Reflect on a current situation where you need to apply grace before judgment.
List practical ways you can show mercy to someone you might be tempted to judge.







Day 2: 🎔 Judging with Mercy and Grace

Prayer for Today

Jesus, thank You for showing mercy where judgment seemed certain. Teach me to extend that same grace to those around me, to remember my own imperfections, and to speak truth with love. Help me not to condemn, but to desire restoration and healing for others as You do. Give me a heart that mirrors Your compassion. Amen. (?)















Your Verse

Matthew 7:12 NIV - 'So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you...'

Supporting Scriptures

- Philippians 2:3-4 "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."
- Galatians 6:1 "Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently."







Devotional: Putting Humility into Practice Daily

Having understood the importance of examining ourselves and showing mercy, the final step is to live out this humble form of judgment daily. Matthew 7:12, often called the Golden Rule, guides us to treat others as we want to be treated — with kindness, respect, and fairness. This principle undergirds how we judge situations and people.

Paul's letter to the Philippians reminds us to act in humility, considering others better than ourselves and seeking their good. This posture helps prevent the harsh, self-righteous judgments that fracture communities.

Galatians 6 encourages believers to restore those who stumble gently. This means approaching others with care and patience, recognizing our shared journey of growth. Humble judgment is not passive but active — it is engaged, loving correction wrapped in grace.

Reflect on how you can embody this today. How can your attitudes and actions reflect a spirit of gentle restoration? How can you be an agent of healing rather than division?







Reflect and Apply

1.	How does the Golden Rule influence the way I judge others?
2.	In what ways can I cultivate humility in my relationships and judgments?
	Who can I lovingly restore or support today with gentle correction or encouragement?
4.	What changes can I make to respond to others as Jesus commands?















Journaling Prompts

Describe a situation where applying the Golden Rule changed your judgment or reaction.
Write down three ways to practice humility when faced with conflict or correction.
Reflect on someone you could gently restore or encourage in their walk with God.







Prayer for Today

Father, help me live with humility and grace. Teach me to treat others as I want to be treated, judging gently and restoring lovingly. May my words build up rather than tear down, and may my actions reflect Your heart. Empower me to be an instrument of peace and grace in all my relationships. In Jesus' name, amen.







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