JUDGE YOURSELF


Verse #1 - "Judge not, that ye be not judged."

The Bible clearly tell us not to judge others. The only person we're allowed to judge is ourself.

Why Do People Judge Others:

1) Insecure. (Low self-esteem).

2) Pride. (Think they're better).

3) Jealous. (Wishing they had what they're really criticizing).

4) Need A Life. (They're bored & have too much time on their hands).

5) Perfectionist. (The standards they impose on others are unrealistic. We're all a work in progress).

The Difference Between Judging A Person & Discernment:

Discernment is nothing more than the ability to decide between truth and error.

We need discernment about people. For instance, who we can trust, who we can befriend, where we should work, etc.

We can discern some things about a person's character. Ex: Honesty, integrity,
spirituality, compassion, etc. It's up to God, though, to do the examining and judging of the heart. When we sense a negative flaw in a person's character, we need to pray for them. Not every person you meet will be a close friend to you. There are some people you need to distance yourself from. The Bible even warns us to avoid hot-tempered people who get angry easily. (Prov. 22:24 / Prov. 29:22 / Prov. 14:17 / Ecc. 7:9)

Remember the story of Samuel when he was looking for the next king to replace King Saul? It's recorded in I Sam. 16:7-
"...for the Lord seeth not as man seeth, for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."

Judging someone else is putting yourself in a position to criticize.

Definition of Judging: "Form an opinion or conclusion."

Often, people form judgments by comparison. If others don't look, dress, think, believe, eat or react in the same fashion you think they should, a judging, critical spirit may begin rising forth within you.

Here are some scriptures against judging others:


Sometimes in leadership positions (such as: pastors, teachers, parents, bosses, policemen, court judges), leaders need to judge some situations in order to make the right decisions and counsel to help people.

Although it's not right to judge people by their differences from us, leaders do need to determine if others have made the wrong choices that may affect the environment of those that are leading.
It may be necessary for leaders to counsel, reprimand, or revise the poor choices those under such leadership have made and make it right. In circumstances like this, it takes God’s wisdom, guidance, forgiveness and love.

If people are not under your leadership or mentorship, then it’s really none of your business to judge or criticize them. We are to judge our own selves above anyone else. If we continually judge ourselves by the Word, we will not have much temptation in the area of judging others.

If we judge ourselves now, there may be less judgment placed upon us later when we stand before God’s throne and Jesus does the judging.

I Peter 4: 17 & 18 - "... judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?"

This verse doesn't mean we judge one another, but ourselves.

The unsaved will have the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev. 20: 11-15).

The believers will have the Judgment Seat Of Christ (Ro. 14:10 / II Cor. 5:10).

God has turned all judgment over to His Son, Jesus.

John 5:22 - "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son..." (Acts 10:42 / Luke 21:36 / Jude #14 & #15 / Ro. 2;16 / II Tim. 4:1 / I Peter 4:5)

When earthly leaders judge situations to make right choices, it should not be in a way that condemns the people involved. God desires leaders to correct, but to also build up and encourage those they are mentoring or overseeing. Everything should
be done decently, in order and in the love and compassion of God.

It's a serious responsibility to be engaged in leadership positions and roles. Make sure you are called by God before entering into any type of leadership assignments or duties involving mentoring others. Realize the ultimate Judge is not you, but God. God is the only One who really knows the heart's of the human race.

Tread lightly and cautiously when you are in leadership roles, and need to correct and judge certain situations regarding others motives and intentions. God knows distinctly and directly the motives of others hearts, much more than we ever could. That's why His Word tells us to let Him judge, and not us. We have our will to make the right or wrong choices to succeed or fail in this earthly life. Someday, all of us will have to give an account of our lives. No one will be speaking up for us. We will have to stand all alone, before God, to do this. His judgment is perfect and fair in every way.

May we be men and women of God who display the characteristics of Christ's love to everyone we meet. Always let His love prevail over judgmental thoughts about others. God knows the beginning and the end of every one of our lives. His patience and longsuffering far exceeds ours. We're all a work in progress. Be patient with others, like God is patient with us! He's not finished with any of us yet. Our Father delights in taking the weak and making them strong. The bound and setting them free. The sick and making them well. The poor and making them prosperous.

There's hope for anyone to change. When we surrender our heart to Jesus, He gives us the Holy Spirit to live and dwell inside of us. The Holy Spirit will convict, counsel, console, comfort and show us many other things about ourselves in the light of
God’s Word. His job is to mold us to be more like Jesus. (John 16:7-15 / John 14:26 / John 15:26)

Don’t give up on people that annoy or irritate you. Stop judging those around you. Just live the christian life to the fullest, letting the Holy Spirit guide you and give you God’s wisdom in every situation that you encounter. If you judge yourself daily, you really won’t have time to judge others.

Live.

Love.

Laugh.

I Will Not Judge
(poem)

Dear God, I’m glad I’m not like that. She’s way too thin, He’s way too fat.

They really need to comb their hair
And change their jeans that have a tear.

Have you noticed his crooked teeth?
The way he laughs is like a freak!

She talks alot and way too fast.
He’s really lazy and that’s a fact!

The house they live in is such a mess.
That’s probably why they’re so distressed.

Then I heard God speak to me.
He said, “Some things you just can’t see.

Don’t be quick to judge and say
You’d do it in a different way.

It’s not for you to understand
The way I’m molding in My hand

The people you have criticized
Because you think that you’re so wise.
Real wisdom comes from Me, above.
It's patient, kind and full of love.

So don't judge by what you hear or see.
Leave the judging up to Me.

They'll be a time when it's all revealed.
Till then, be humble and ever so still

And seal your lips as you pass by
That one you're tempted to criticize."

(Poem by: Pastor Jill Walker - 2013)

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