

EVERYBODY DOES IT, AND IT'S FUN!

5th in a Series on Difficult Sayings of Jesus Titled, "What Did He Say?" **Passage: Matthew 7:1-6** - Topic: Judging Others

This past Sunday, Rick continued his sermon series aimed at understanding some of the more confusing teachings of Jesus Christ. This time we looked at the teaching of Jesus when He says not to judge or be a hypocrite. Then He says not to throw pearls before the swine or give holy food to dogs.

Rick pointed out that those who complain that Christians in the church are judgmental and hypocritical are themselves being judgmental about those people. And because they condemn the very thing they do, they are also hypocritical! In fact, Rick says, we are all judgmental and critical, because our brains are wired to take in data and analyze it, constantly. He pointed out that we must seek a higher authority (God) to determine what is right and wrong, or else we will have chaos. And then we can discern what is right and what is wrong.

Then he urged us to use the Golden Rule, to treat others the way we wish to be treated, showing grace as we would wish to be shown grace, not condemning, being judgmental, or criticizing.

Rick explained that the dogs and pigs are not humans in Jesus' meaning. He was just saying not to do something idiotic (like thinking we should not use discernment in what is right and wrong because Jesus says don't judge others).

He finished with two suggestions: Let God's Word rule, focusing on ourselves to fix, not others; and start from the standpoint of having poverty of soul: Blessed are the poor in spirit.