

How to Glorify your God

By Roger Miller

Introduction: last Wednesday at the school there was a book club, I went because as a parent I did not think very highly of the book. It was interesting to me the students and teacher knew that several parents objected to the book, so they were on the defensive. Every young person's mantra was; don't Judge me! It was clear from their actions and Words the biggest sin in their world view was for another person to judge them! We live in a culture that truth is so relative that we are constantly told we have no right to judge anyone or their actions.

People often mis-define the word judge. In our culture, the word judging has become synonymous with the word condemnation. Even people who do not believe the scriptures will quickly quote one phrase of Jesus anytime their ideas or actions are questioned – “Jesus said, judge not lest you be judged”. Did Jesus teach that we are not allowed to judge? Quite the contrary. The teaching of Jesus as well as the rest of the New Testament commands us to judge. Even the passage quoted above is completely out of context. In Fact that quote is out of Matthew 7-in that quote Jesus is saying: when you do Judge- understand how you judge others is how you will be judged-Not that we are not to judge in fact the rest of the Chapter Jesus teaches us how to judge correctly. Matthew 7:7-12 Jesus teaches us to ask for wisdom for good judgments. Then in 13-14 he commands us to judge between the wide and narrow path. Then in parable of the tree and it's fruit He tells us to judge and remove false teachers by inspecting their fruit. Lastly, Jesus say's we must judge our own building and whether we are wise or foolish builders. Jesus clearly wants us to judge, but not be judgmental.

The word 'judge' does not mean to condemn someone. When judging, some will continue on to condemnation, but that is not the meaning the scripture puts on judging. There is a difference between judging and being judgmental. Scriptural judging is to evaluate an action, doctrine or idea and determine

if it is right or wrong. Unscriptural; judging evaluates a persons worth and motives: this is God's Job not ours.

I find it very interesting we can all quote: judge not lest you be judged . But almost no one knows John 7:24 where Jesus teaches us: Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment." In this context the Pharisees were upset with Jesus for healing on the Sabbath. Jesus is not upset they are judging-he is upset they are making the wrong judgment based on appearances. This is a clear example of Jesus telling us we must make right judgments . Notice that we are given two instructions; 1. Don't judge according to appearance; 2. Judge with a right judgment. The word 'judge' is the Greek word 'krino' which means: to pick out, separate, approve and to evaluate between right and wrong. This is not condemnation but rather, it is an evaluation between two options. We are called to evaluate and make a judgment between right and wrong based on a righteous standard. There is only one right way to judge – a righteous judgment. (a Judgment formed from a in depth study of God's revealed will in the bible. Every other judgment is according to human standards. If I am the source of judgment, I will judge based on personal preference.

Jesus command is to judge with a right judgment. It is absurd to say that we are not allowed to judge. Life itself is a non-stop series of judgments. Every decision we make is a judgment. When it comes to spiritual matters, we must have something greater than ourselves to make a sound judgment. Simply put, righteous judgment is judging according to scripture. In truth, I am not doing the judging at all but instead am looking at the judgment God has made and evaluating how an action or doctrine aligns with what God has already revealed. In John 12, Jesus said that He does not judge because those who reject the word already have that which judges them. The word is the judge, our role is to evaluate whether something is in agreement with the Word or is in disagreement with the Word. So when should we judge the actions of others?

When we must Judge of actions of others.

Judge to protect the innocent

But if anyone causes one of these **little ones** who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. Matthew 18:6
Innocent Children are trusting by nature. Because they trust adults They are easily led to or from Christ
Because of this God desires us to judge actions that may harm the innocent.

Ron

Judge to Protect Your Church

I also received a report of scandalous sex within your church family, a kind that wouldn't be tolerated even outside the church: One of your men is sleeping with his stepmother. And you're so above it all that it doesn't even faze you! Shouldn't this break your hearts? Shouldn't it bring you to your knees in tears? Shouldn't this person and his conduct be confronted and dealt with? I Cor 5:1,2 Mess
Last week we dealt with all the reasons we should not Judge others. This week we are talking about when we should judge the actions of others-not their worth or guilt that is God's Job. Here Paul is clear we are to Judge and deal with sin that may destroy the church. Paul's instructions should not be used to handle trivial matters or to take revenge. This was a case of open and blatant sin a person who confessed to be a Christian was committing. Paul is clear it is other Christians responsibility to judge the action as sinful or righteous, confront or encourage and comfort to point of restoration.

Linda

Judge to protect Your Brother & Sisters

Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer^[a] is overcome by some sin, you who are godly^[b] should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself. Galatians 6:1

The Greek verb translated as help is used elsewhere In NT to describe as setting bones, mending nets or bringing factions together. We must learn that Judgement is not about destruction but setting things right. When we must go and talk with a fellow believer about sin it is not to harm them but to deliver

healing. When others come and confront us remember it is for our own good! When I was a kid I knew everyone in the emergency room on a first name basis! So needless to say I had a few cuts and scrapes along the way. My mother discovered this wonder cure called Metholade-it burned like fire-but I also knew there was nothing better for healing my cuts. When others come to us about a sin or a mistake it burns like fire-but nothing brings healing faster.

Mom

Judge to protect the world?

It isn't my responsibility to judge outsiders, but it certainly is your responsibility to judge those inside the church who are sinning. 13 God will judge those on the outside; but as the Scriptures say, "You must remove the evil person from among you." 1 Corinthians 5:12,13 NLT

Rebuke Without _____ = Resentment.

Small Town Pharmacy.

How we can use judgment to glorify God

Contain the fire

If your brother sins against you,^[b] go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. 16But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.'^[c] 17If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector. Matthew 18:15-17

When some one wrongs us, we often do the exact opposite of Jesus commands. We either avoid the offender or we destroy them through gossip. Jesus teaches that the fire of sin, should be contained by simply going to the one who hurts and then and only then when reconciliation can not be reached do we talk to some one else. Containing the fire increases the chance of restoration.

Speak Truthfully and lovingly

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

Ephesians 4:15 NIV

As Christ is the incarnate Word, so we as Christians are supposed to be truth incarnate. A Christian is supposed to be truth with skin around it, truth in shoeleather, truth in action. As one of the Fathers said, "Preach the Gospel. If necessary, use words." This is not to lessen the emphasis on proper speaking, but simply to realize that until we are the truth, what we say about the truth will have little credibility.

And how are we supposed to Judge in truth with love.? One of the most serious danger signs about the Church is how some Christians emphasis all truth or all love. You see Fundamentalist cares about the truth, but his zeal makes him combative and divisive. The liberal cares about peace and harmony, but zeal for those things leads him to compromise even the fundamentals of the faith. We have gotten so used to this that we almost treat it as inevitable. But the Apostle will have none of it. The split between the two destroys both. Paul is stating we must Judge-there is absolute truth! But it must be seasoned with love. When we must judge and then rebuke: God's truth must be spoken in love!

Act with Gentleness and humility

Someone has suggested that TV commercials teach a child three interesting things. The first is that all problems are solvable. The second is that all problems are solvable fast. And the third is that all problems are solvable fast through the agency of some technology. It may be a detergent. It may be an airplane or some piece of machinery, like an automobile or computer.

We know that this isn't so! Most problems in life are solvable, but most are not solved quickly. And they are not definitely solved with money, material things or machinery. Especially when it comes to people, sin and the hardships of life ah, but there is a miraculous wonder! His name is Jesus!

Matthew 11:28-29 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my

yoke upon and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

Don't these words sound good? To me, Jesus is saying, "I am here for you. I am gentle. I will be gentle with you. I understand what you are going through, because I have been tempted in every way you have. So I am your humble shepherd who will not condemn but restore. I understand your pain. I want to help you, soothe you, and make it better. Come to me. Lean on me. Trust me with your life, your problems and your pain. I can ease the pain. I can forgive the sin. I can make things better."

Jesus was, is and always will be the answer to life's pain and problems! So it is simple but takes a lifetime of practice to get better at: when we must judge and confront be Jesus! The truth should always be seasoned with the humble salt: I am fellow struggler In this issue, but you are going to hurt yourself if you do not stop. Most of all we must never point our finger unless we are pointing at the truth. Some use the truth like a 2x4 to beat you up with. I find it interesting the one man who had every right to use truth harshly never did: Jesus always used truth in a gentle manner-we must do the same.

Extend forgiveness and restore

2 Corinthians 2:5-11

The Goal of Judging our Brother or Sister is not so we can feel superior-
For their humiliation-because of what people will think-say or do-there
is only one reason-so they and the church can find forgiveness and
restoration.

Conclusion: Why we don't do this anymore? It more often than not
does not end in our best interest. As followers of Christ we to obey him whether it is good for us or not.

In Short we are to glorify God!

My friends ain't the way I wish they were
They are just the way they are
And I will be my brother's keeper
Not the one who judges him

I won't despise him for his weakness
I won't regard him for his strength
I won't take away his freedom
I will help him learn to stand
And I will, I will be my brother's keeper Rich Mullins