

**Sermon:** Judge Not. Why not?  
**Series:** *James: Real Wisdom Real Faith.*

**Scripture:** James 4:11-12.  
**Date:** March 6, 2022

---

**OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION** -- Answer these questions together:

**1. What does this passage teach us about us?**

- a) Are you judgmental? In what ways? Who do you tend to judge? Have you “spoken against” anyone this week? (Critical, quarreling, slanderous, fault finding, denigration, partiality, etc.)
- b) Have you ever felt judged by someone else? Another Christian?
- c) Read Romans 2:1 and Luke 6:41-42. How does being judgmental only serve to condemn us rather

**2. What does this passage teach us about God?**

- a) God alone is the law-giver and judge. How does this truth comfort you? Free you?
- b) Why does James say that judging others not only breaks God’s law, but also judges God’s law? In what ways does your judgmental speech also judge God’s law of love?

**3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?**

- a) Judgmentalism flows from a heart that is full of self-righteousness. How does the gospel cure us of our need to feel self-righteous? (Think about the two gospel truths: 1) you are wicked, and 2) you are loved.)

**APPLICATION**

- a) In what specific way can you apply James’ warning about judging others? Where might you need to address your heart attitude and your words? Is there a specific person that you have been judging that you might encourage this week instead?

**FIGHTER VERSES:** James 4:7-10.

**PRAYER**

- Praise God for being a good and righteous law-giver and judge.
- Confess ways that you have judged others and spoken evil of them.
- Thank Jesus for being “destroyed” for your sin on the cross.
- Ask God to help you to speak words that build up and encourage rather than judgmental words that tear down.