



## Your "Critical" Problem A Study of Matthew 7:1-6

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Some of us need to work on our tendency to c\_\_\_\_\_ the world around us.

### Our need for mercy makes criticism of others *dangerous*

**Matthew 7:1-2 (NIV)**, "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

**James 4:11-12 (NLT)**, "Don't speak evil against each other, dear brothers and sisters. . . . God alone, who gave the law, is the Judge. He alone has the power to save or to destroy. So what right do you have to judge your neighbor?"

**Romans 14:10 (NLT)**, "Why do you condemn another believer? Why do you look down on another believer?"

- In Chapter 5: "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy" (5:7).
- In Chapter 6: "Forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven our debtors" (6:12).
- In Chapter 7: "For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged" (7:2).

### Our need for improvement makes criticism of others *ridiculous*

**Matthew 7:3-5 (NIV)**, "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? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

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

Some of us need to work on our reluctance to c\_\_\_\_\_ the world around us.

**Matthew 7:6 (NIV)**, Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and then turn and tear you to pieces.

**John 7:24 (CSB)**, "Stop judging according to outward appearances; rather judge according to righteous judgment."