

SOTM 13 - Matt 7 - Look Within

Someone has summed up Christian activity as (**look up, look in, & look out**) today focused on **Look In**

Look at the Log in Your Own Eye First - then you see clearly

Mat 7:1-29 ESV "Judge not, that you be not judged. 2 For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. 3 **Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?** 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? [slide] 5 You hypocrite, **first** take the log out of your own eye, **and then you will see clearly** to take the speck out of your brother's eye. 6 "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

- The focus of this teaching is not the oft said **"Don't Judge Me"**
- The point is to move us toward righteous judgment - **so take care of the log in YOUR OWN EYE**
- Joh 7:24 ESV Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment."
- Pointing out the speck without first dealing with the log - is like casting what is holy to dogs and pearls before swine → they will turn and attack you
- Solicit the help of God in this

You need the Help of the Holy Spirit "treat others the way you want to be treated"

7 **"Ask**, and it will be given to you; **seek**, and you will find; **knock**, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? [slide] 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? 11 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him! 12 **"So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.**

- Luk 11:13 ESV If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"**
- Perhaps one work of the Holy Spirit is to help us **judge rightly** and **"do to others, what we would want done to ourselves..."**

Are you willing to stand alone? - its easy to NOT follow Jesus → to follow the crowd

13 "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and **the way is easy** that leads to destruction, and **those who enter** by it are many. 14 For the gate is narrow and **the way is hard** that leads to life, and **those who find it** are few.

Pay attention to the source of your teaching

15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 So, **every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit.** 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 **Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.**

- Know those who labor among you (be part of a body, to know and be known not an internet Christian)

Right doctrine and spiritual activity is not a substitute for knowing Jesus

21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in

your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' 23 And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

- They may know right stuff (they call me Lord) - its not about correct doctrine it is about obedience
- They may do spiritual things (prophesy, cast out demons and mighty works) - its about knowing Him
- 1Co 8:3 ESV But if anyone loves God, **he is known by God.**

Focus on obedience

24 "Everyone then **who hears these words of mine and does them** will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. **[slide]** 27 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it." 28 And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, 29 for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.