

December 14, 2025



**Week 15 – THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT, PART 5 (Mt 7:1-14, pp. 115-121)**

The Sermon on the Mount is one of the most famous “sermons” that Jesus delivers. In the sermon, Jesus teaches about the Kingdom of Heaven. The sermon goes from Matthew 5 through Matthew 7.

In Part 1 of the Sermon we read the “**Beatitudes**” and learned about the true nature of BLESSING. In Part 2, we read about **God’s Law** and its fulfillment in Christ. In Part 3, we learned about the proper practice of **Giving, Praying and Fasting**. And in Part 4, Jesus focused on **our relationship to money and possessions**. Today in Part 5 of the Sermon, Jesus speaks to us about **our responsibility to love and pray for one another**.

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The opening verses of this section command us to “**Judge not, that [we] be not judged.**” The Greek word for “judge” (κρίνω) refers to an official act of judgment, condemnation, or punishment. In the same section, however, we are encouraged to, “**take the speck out of [our] brother’s eye,**” after first removing the log from our own.

What is the “hypocrisy” that Jesus is prohibiting? \_\_\_\_\_

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How can God’s people both refrain from judgment AND help our Christian brothers and sisters turn away from sin? \_\_\_\_\_

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Does this passage prohibit all official acts of judgement by human beings? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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What “official” acts of judgment are exercised in...

... the state? \_\_\_\_\_

... the family? \_\_\_\_\_

... the church? \_\_\_\_\_

Why are these official acts of judgement necessary and important in the three estates? \_\_\_\_\_

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How are these official acts of judgment distinct from God’s judgment? \_\_\_\_\_

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How are these official acts of judgment distinct from the brotherly encouragement to turn away from sin and turn toward God in faith? \_\_\_\_\_

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When we help our Christian brothers and sisters, why is it important to acknowledge our own sin first? \_\_\_\_\_

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How is Jesus’ teaching on prayer here connected with our relationships with others and the help we are meant to offer them? \_\_\_\_\_

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Consider the context of helping our Christian brothers and sisters turn away from sin without judgment. How does this change our understanding of the Golden Rule? \_\_\_\_\_

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**For Next Time:**

*Week 16 – THE SERMON on the MOUNT, PART 6 (Mt 7:15-29, pp. 123-129)*