

# Should Christians Judge?

## Tolerance

### A CULTURE OF TOLERANCE

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### DEFINITIONS

"rightly dividing": \_\_\_\_\_

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"judge": \_\_\_\_\_

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"Judge not, that ye be not judged."  
—Matthew 7:1

### CONTEXT

What was Jesus speaking against?

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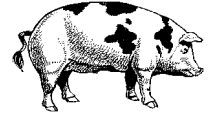
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Jesus was laying out the steps for making a \_\_\_\_\_ judgment.

Matthew 7:5 "Then thou shalt see \_\_\_\_\_."

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**MATTHEW 7:6**  
**HOW TO BEWARE OF**  
**DOGS AND PIGS?**




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"Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment." —John 6:24

Biblically, there is a \_\_\_\_\_ way and a \_\_\_\_\_ way to judge.

### JUDGING IN THE WRONG WAY

Hypocritical: \_\_\_\_\_

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Judging Motives: \_\_\_\_\_

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Superficial Judging: \_\_\_\_\_

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Wrong Attitude & Motivation: \_\_\_\_\_

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Matters of Conscience: \_\_\_\_\_

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Being Judgmental: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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### DISCERNMENT (SPIRITUAL JUDGING)

"discernment": \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

We must \_\_\_\_\_ in discernment;  
senses trained to discern (Hebrews 5:12-14).

Discernment requires the \_\_\_\_\_ &  
the \_\_\_\_\_.

Never lose sight of our goal: "pointing  
people to \_\_\_\_\_."



### HOW DID JESUS JUDGE?

John 8:7 – self  
examination (mote and  
beam; speck and 2x4).

What were the motives of the scribes &  
Pharisees? (John 8:6) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

When the woman did not leave, this  
gave Jesus a \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus started a conversation first,  
"Where are your \_\_\_\_\_?"

Compare the actions of Jesus and the  
actions of the scribes and Pharisees.  
Which caused the woman to want to  
"sin no more"? Did Jesus condone her  
sin? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT

#### 1. What is my motive?

Does it make me feel superior?

Am I being critical?

Do I have respect of persons?

Am I striving for unity?

#### 2. Is it my place?

Discerning & addressing are  
two different things.

Am I a spiritual leader?

Was I asked?

#### 3. Have I examined myself first?

Am I measured up?

What is my attitude?

Am I open to correction?

#### 4. Have I prayed about it & given it time?

Could I have misjudged or misunderstood?

Could I be jumping to conclusions?

Could it be that God wants  
to work with them?

#### 5. Is God's Spirit leading me?

There is a time to speak & keep silent.

Could my life (not my words) be the best  
judgment (2 Corinthians 3:2)?

Is it "lawful" AND "expedient"?

Lawful: \_\_\_\_\_

Expedient: \_\_\_\_\_

Does it "edify not" (1 Corinthians 10:23)?

Have I counseled with a spiritual leader?

#### 6. What is my approach?

Finger-pointing or gentle?

Am I "shewing all meekness"?

Am I keeping in mind my own faults?

"We ourselves also were sometimes ..."

(Titus 3:3).

Am I speaking the truth in love  
(Ephesians 4:15)?

