INTRODUCTION

• “Do not judge lest you be judged?” Is this an absolute or are there exceptions? Is this an unconditional or a conditional command? What is the context of this passage?
• Hermeneutic Principle. Though a passage may seem on the surface to be unconditional, it may be a conditional passage after you consider all of Scripture.

PASSAGE

To Judge or Not to Judge…
• “Do not judge…” – is it conditional or unconditional?
• Consider the following:
  1. 1Cor 6:3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more matters of this life?
  2. 1Cor 11:13 Judge for yourselves if something is right or not
  3. Luke 12:57 Jesus said “And why do you not even on your own initiative judge what is right?”
  4. John 7:24 Jesus said “Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.”
• So, the context is earthly vs righteous judgment. Jesus is telling us not to judge from man’s fallible perspective

Casting Pearls Before Swine
• What are the “pearls” and who are the “swine”?
  • Pearls are anything precious, such as the Gospel
  • Swine are anyone with wicked or foolish intent
• Consider this. Herod was very glad to see Jesus and was hoping to see a miracle from Him – BUT Jesus wouldn’t even give him the time of day……Luke 23:8-9
• We have an over-riding principle. Though we are to give to those who ask of us, including giving an answer when asked for the hope that lies within us, BUT not when doing so will cause the foolish to rend us

Ask for Anything and Get Everything
• “Ask and it will be given to you” – is this conditional on something or unconditional?
• Consider this. Did Jesus always give to everyone who asked Him of something? No, He did not
• Pharisees asked for “a sign” to prove His deity, and Jesus said NOPE, revisit Jonah for proof…….Mat 12:38
• Some of the 4,000 who got a free meal found Jesus the next day seeking more food from Him, and Jesus said, NOPE, but seek eternal bread ………John 6:26-27
• This passage of asking and receiving is conditional:
  1. Our true motives must be righteous………..James 4:3
  2. Our asking must be in God’s will…………1John 5:14

The Golden Rule
• Again, is this unconditional or conditional? Is this an absolute or a general principle to live by?

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

• Let us be diligent in our study of God’s word to rightly dividing the word of truth ……………………………2Timothy 2:15

NEXT WEEK: Matthew 08. Large crowds continued to follow Jesus and He “healed ALL who were ill” – Oh, where are all His miracles which we have heard about? ……………………..Judges 6:13 (Gideon)