

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 6 December 2015..... Matthew 03 .....The Preaching of John the Baptist
- 2) 13 December..... Matthew 01 ..... The Genealogy of Christ
- 3) 20 December..... Matthew 02 ..... The Magi
- 4) 27 December..... Matthew 04 ..... The Temptation of Jesus
- 5) 03 January 2016..... Matthew 05:1-16..... The Sermon on the Mount
- 6) 10 January..... Matthew 06..... Benevolence Giving
- 7) 17 January..... Matthew 05:17-45..... Personal Relationships
- 8) **24 January..... Matthew 07..... Judging Others**
- 9) 31 January..... Matthew 08..... More Miracles
- 10) 07 February..... Matthew 09-10..... More Miracles
- 11) 14 February..... Matthew 11..... Tough Questions
- 12) 21 February..... Matthew 12..... Time to Pick a Fight
- 13) 28 February..... Matthew 13..... More Parables

**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	Comments
Matthew 7:1-5	<p><b>To Judge or Not to Judge...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Do not Judge...”</b> – is it conditional or unconditional?</li> <li>• Consider the following:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>1Cor 6:3</b> Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more matters of this life?</li> <li>2. <b>1Cor 11:13</b> Judge for yourselves if something is right or not</li> <li>3. <b>Luke 12:57</b> Jesus said "And why do you not even on your own initiative judge what is right?"</li> <li>4. <b>John 7:24</b> Jesus said "Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."</li> </ol> </li> <li>• So, the context is earthly vs righteous judgment. Jesus is telling us not to judge from man’s fallible perspective</li> </ul>
7:6	<p><b>Casting Pearls Before Swine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the “pearls” and who are the “swine”?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Pearls are anything precious, such as the Gospel</li> <li>♦ Swine are anyone with wicked or foolish intent</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Consider this.</b> 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..... <b>Luke 23:8-9</b></li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>
7:7-11	<p><b>Ask for Anything and Get Everything</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Ask and it will be given to you”</b> – is this conditional on something or unconditional?</li> <li>• <b>Consider this.</b> Did Jesus always give to everyone who asked Him of something? No, He did not</li> <li>• Pharisees asked for “a sign” to prove His deity, and Jesus said NOPE, revisit Jonah for proof..... <b>Mat 12:38</b></li> <li>• 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..... <b>John 6:26-27</b></li> <li>• This passage of asking and receiving is conditional:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Our true motives must be righteous..... <b>James 4:3</b></li> <li>2. Our asking must be in God’s will..... <b>1John 5:14</b></li> </ol> </li> </ul>
7:12	<p><b>The Golden Rule</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Again, is this unconditional or conditional? Is this an absolute or a general principle to live by?</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Consider this.</b> Jesus cracked the whip to chase people out of the temple (<b>John 2:15</b>), and Jesus ignored a woman seeking a healing for her daughter (<b>Mat 15:22-23</b>), and both John the Baptist and Jesus called some folks vipers (<b>Mat 3:7; 12:34</b>)</li> <li>• <b>Be aware of overriding principles.</b> Yes, treat people with kindness, assuming there is no wicked or foolish behavior, else a rod or other “harsh” means may be needed to drive out foolishness or ignorance</li> </ul>
7:13-14	<p><b>The Narrow Gate</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The way of salvation through Christ has never been the easy path, or the popular path – it is the only path</li> <li>• A 2007 survey by Pew Research Center indicated 78% of Americans proclaimed to be Christian, with 51% being Protestant. According to Jesus, genuine Christianity will never be a majority movement. Is something wrong with this survey?</li> </ul>
7:15:20	<p><b>False Prophets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The greatest challenge to the Church does not come from the outside, but from the inside</li> <li>• Outside persecution actually strengthens and grows God’s Church                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Early church father, Tertullian, said in A.D. 197, “the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church”</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
7:21-23	<p><b>Anyone can work “Miracles”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don’t be fooled by modern day miracle workers. The best they can do is psychosomatic healings, not true supernatural healings as Jesus and His Apostles did</li> <li>• Jesus and a few others healed anyone and everyone of anything and every thing, any time and every time, anywhere and everywhere they went – for a season</li> </ul>
7:24-27	<p><b>Wise Builders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Those who have ears to hear will hear and properly respond ..... <b>Mat 11:15</b></li> </ul>
7:28-29	<p><b>Teaching with Authority</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does this type of teaching look like?</li> <li>• Can we teach with such authority without supernatural wonders to back us up? YES, absolutely. We have the confirmed word of God w/ His anointing (<b>2Cor 1:21-22</b>) on us to go with boldness (<b>1Tim 3:13</b>)</li> </ul>

**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)**

