

**Cultivating
a Christian Character**

***Studies in
The Sermon on the Mount
Matthew chapters 5-7***

***Planks and Splinters
- don't be judgemental
Matthew 7.1-6***

Five reasons for not being judgemental

1. Judging is not our role, Rom 14.4

- ***It's a role that belongs to Jesus John 5.22,27
because of his unique deity and humanity
Acts 10.42; 17.31; Rom 2.16; James 4.12***

2. Judging is incompatible

with our calling to be merciful, Mat 5.7

- ***Fault-finding has no place in our lives
God's passion is for people to be saved,
not condemned John 3.17; 2 Pet 3.9
Luke 3.9***

Five reasons for not being judgemental

3. Judging invites

a harsh verdict on ourselves, vs1-2

- ***Attacks on others may rebound 2 Sam 12.1-9***
the standards we expect from others
may be greater than what we're achieving
none of us is without sin
Rom 2.1; John 8.2-11
so we need to be merciful Mat 5.7

4. Judging: it's hard for us to be objective, vs 3-5

- ***Our vision is often impaired***
by preferences, prejudices Luke 18.9-14
by ignorance of all the facts Acts 7.26-29

Five reasons for not being judgemental

5. Judging: our priority is to sort out our own life first, v5

- ***Admonition is a delicate exercise Col 3.16
wisdom comes from practising on ourselves
1 Cor 11.28,31***

NB. a non-judgemental attitude doesn't exclude proper discernment, v6

- ***Don't keep giving the Gospel
to those who treat it with contempt
Phil 3.2; 2 Pet 2.18-22; Acts 13.45-51
seek out the true seekers v7***