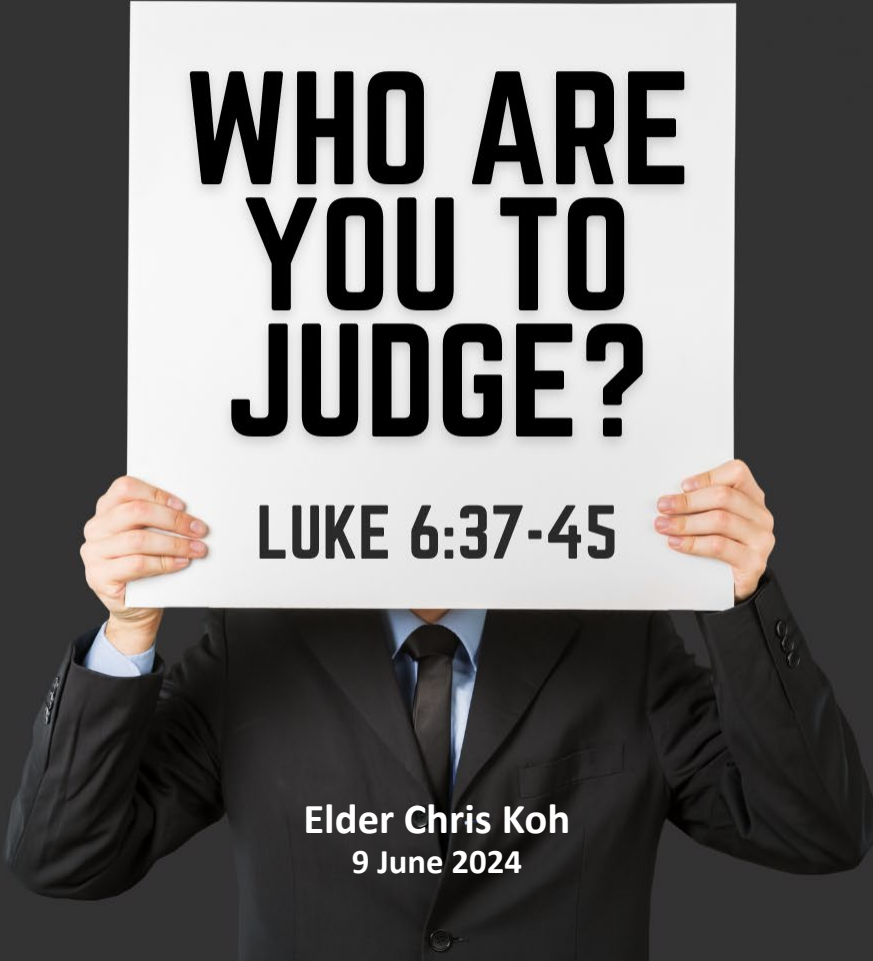


A man in a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie is holding a large white rectangular sign in front of his face. The sign contains the text 'WHO ARE YOU TO JUDGE?' and 'LUKE 6:37-45'. The background is a solid dark grey.

WHO ARE YOU TO JUDGE?

LUKE 6:37-45

Elder Chris Koh
9 June 2024

Introduction

- **What is the most well-known verse in the bible among pre-believers?**



MATTHEW 7:1 (NIV)

Do not judge, or you too will be judged ...





LUKE 6:37-44 (ESV)

37 Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven;





LUKE 6:37-44 (ESV)

38 give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”





LUKE 6:37-44 (ESV)

39 He also told them a parable: “Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? **40** A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.





LUKE 6:37-44 (ESV)

41 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye,
but do not notice the log
that is in your own eye?





LUKE 6:37-44 (ESV)

42 How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.





LUKE 6:37-44 (ESV)

43 “For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, **44** for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush.





1) Are We Supposed to Judge?

- *“Judge not, and you will not be judged.”* Luke 6:37
- This was stated by Jesus directly and recorded twice in the Gospels – in Matthew 7 and Luke 6.





LUKE 6:41-42 (ESV)

41 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?





LUKE 6:41-42 (ESV)

42 How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.





1) Are We Supposed to Judge?

- Jesus was not speaking out against seeing the faults in others.
- He was against the people in those days who were accustomed to seeing only the fault of others.





1) Are We Supposed to Judge?

- Man tends to look at the outward appearance, but you can be a better judge of a person by looking at the fruit in his life.





LUKE 6:37-44 (ESV)

⁴³ “For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, ⁴⁴ for each tree is known by its own fruit ...





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?



- The Cambridge Dictionary defines “to judge” into two parts:
 - a) to express a bad opinion of someone's behaviour, often because you think you are better than them;





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- The Cambridge Dictionary defines “to judge” into two parts:

b) to form, give, or have as an opinion, or to decide about something or someone, especially after thinking carefully





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- There is a wrong way to judge.





LUKE 18:9-14 (NIV)

⁹ To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.





LUKE 18:9-14 (NIV)

11 The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people - robbers, evildoers, adulterers - or even like this tax collector. **12** I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'





LUKE 18:9-14 (NIV)

13 “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’





LUKE 18:9-14 (NIV)

14 “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- The Pharisee judged others but failed to see his own flaws.
- We all have the propensity to be self-righteous.





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- Do you know that gossiping is a form of judging?
- We form opinions and judge others of their actions, and lifestyle without first reviewing our own.





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- What's worse is that at the end of a gathering, we place a value and we judge the persons or the issues we talked about.





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- We do it because we think we know better and there are no consequences.





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- Gossips are destructive to relationships because they erode trust.
- Do you know that we can gossip and judge while still appearing spiritual?





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- You add 5 words after you finish your gossips:
“Remember to pray for them.”





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- Most of us do not do these with evil intent, but still Jesus says, *“Judge not and you will not be judge”*.





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- We can still share things about other people, but we need to consciously examine ourselves so that we would not do these self-righteously or carelessly.





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- What is “thinking carefully”?
- You are not quick to jump to conclusions, but you look at the facts, consider the context, and examine it from all sides before forming an opinion or deciding.





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- To judge in the right way is like watching a documentary where the facts, the context and the substance of the issue are important.





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- Many people tend to judge by forming opinions based on their emotions, the stories that they hear, the narrow way they see things like watching a Korean drama.





2) Is there a right or wrong way to judge?

- As a Christian, thinking carefully is still not good enough.
- We should think carefully, using the Word of God as the yardstick because God's opinion matters more than ours.





3) Who are we to judge?

- Why can't we accept that everyone can have their own views, opinions, and choices?



3) Who are we to judge?

- We are supposed to judge or to discern right from wrong, good from evil and to uphold and promote the proper values, believes and behaviours.



1 CORINTHIANS 6:2-3 (NIV)

² Or do you not know that the Lord's people will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? ³ Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life!





3) Who are we to judge?

- We do accept that people can have their own views, opinions and choices.
- We encourage members to speak to their leaders but the choice is always theirs.



3) Who are we to judge?

- If their views, opinions and choices are incompatible with the Bible, then as responsible leaders, we will let them know that we disagree with their views and will try dissuading those whom we think are heading in the wrong direction.



3) Who are we to judge?

- The key is in speaking out of the love for our sheep.
- If we really care for our friends and relatives, we should summon enough courage to exercise some proper judgement and to speak out in love.



3) Who are we to judge?

- **Woke is an African-American political slang adjective originally meaning alertness to racial prejudice and discrimination.**



3) Who are we to judge?

- In the 2010s, it came to encompass the broader awareness of social inequalities such as racial injustice, sexism and denial of LGBT rights.



3) Who are we to judge?

- The movement is seen by advocates as a more progressive culture that is more inclusive, more tolerant and open minded.
- It has in fact created an atmosphere that is divisive, less tolerant and would fight anything remotely offensive.



3) Who are we to judge?

- When you disagree with them, they will be offended and will claim that you are bigots who are judgemental.

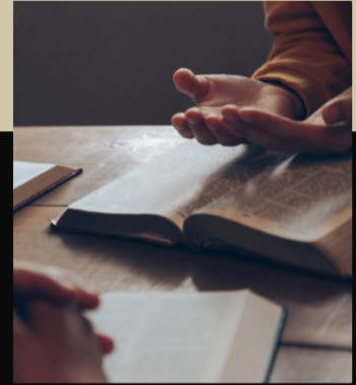


3) Who are we to judge?

- We should guard against the propagation of this woke culture.
- We should not shy away from forming our own opinions either for or against any issues, just to accommodate the sensitivities some people impose on us.



4) What should characterize us as Christians?



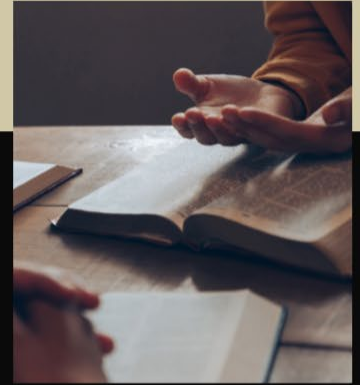
- “What do you do after judging or forming a negative opinion?”
- Our instinctive response is to condemn.





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

- **People are likely to condemn when the sin or wrong-doing is seemingly obvious.**
- **Where there is a crowd doing it, then we feel justified to do likewise.**





LUKE 6:37-38 (ESV)

37 “Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven;





LUKE 6:37-38 (ESV)

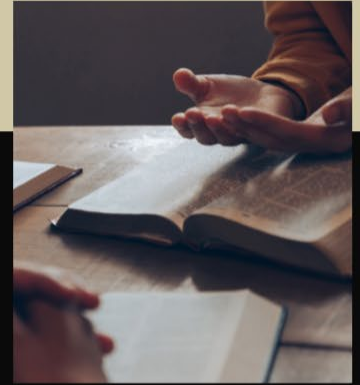
38 give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

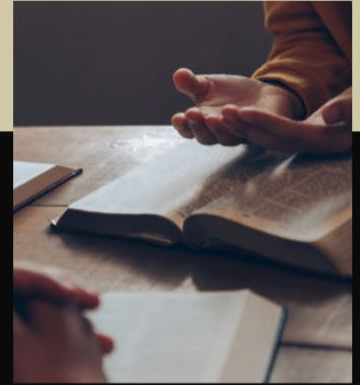
- **Jesus said we should not condemn.**
- **He wants us to demonstrate to the world the Father's heart to forgive and to give.**





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

- **Jesus came not to judge or condemn the world but to save it.**





LUKE 8:7 (ESV)

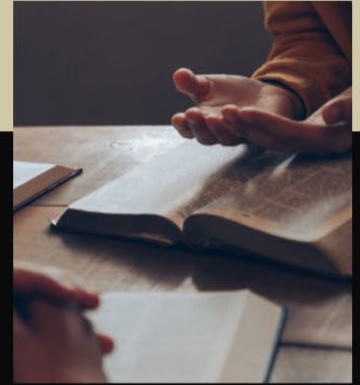
“Let him who is without sin among you
be the first to throw a stone at her.”





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

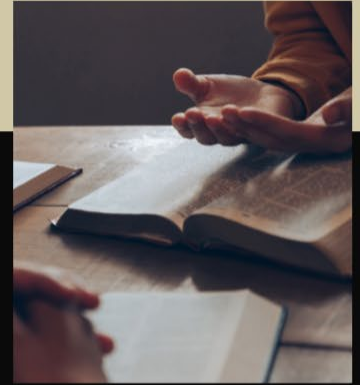
- Jesus pointed for all to examine themselves first and it convicted the mob to leave the woman alone.
- Issues still needs to be addressed but not with a spirit of condemnation.





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

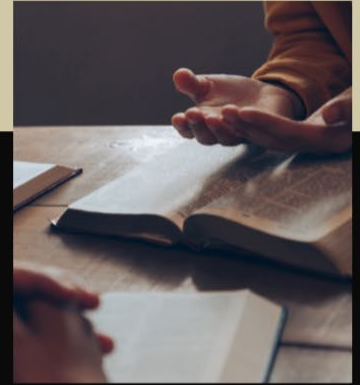
- **Jesus demonstrated God's willingness to forgive and He gave hope to a woman deserving of condemnation according to the law.**





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

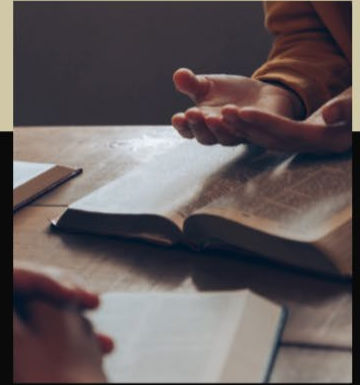
- **We should rely on the Holy Spirit and other people we trust to give us feedback on whether we have been judgemental.**





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

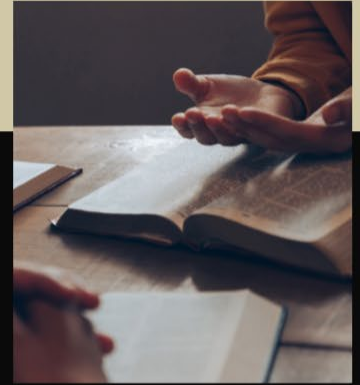
- **There was a time where I thought that talking about other people was harmless because it was just casual chatting among close friends but I was wrong.**





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

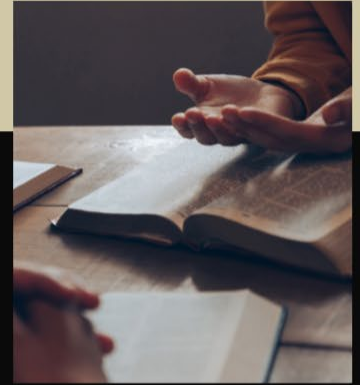
- **As I grow older, I jump to conclusion faster.**
- **It is not wrong to have views but if those views are generally critical, then something is wrong.**





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

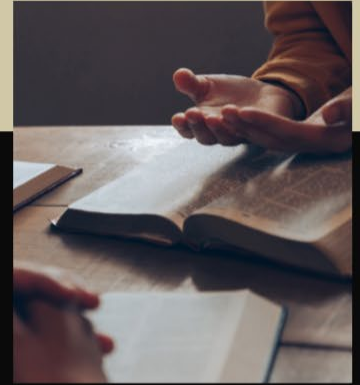
- **The church is supposed to be a safe space where people can find acceptance, forgiveness and friends who would give love and hope.**





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

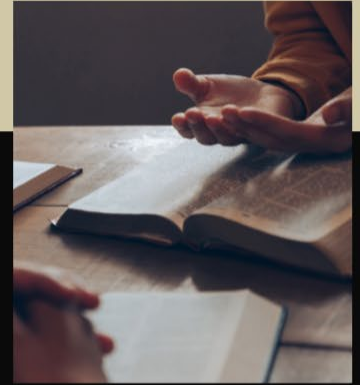
- **If I am judgemental and condemning, then I would be giving the world the wrong image about Christ.**





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

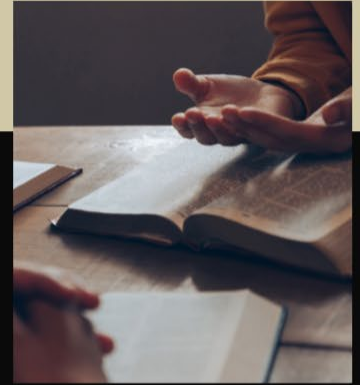
- **Mahatma Gandhi:**
“I like your Christ, I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ.”





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

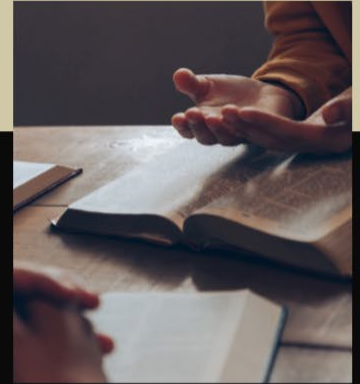
- I am like that at work too especially when I have influence and positional authority.





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

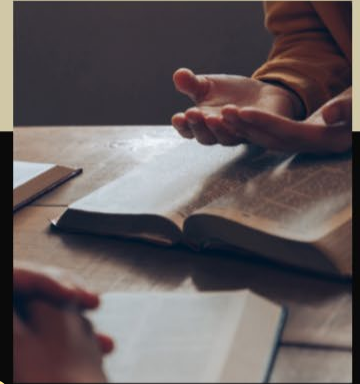
- If God uses the standard that I use to judge other people to measure my attitudes, actions and behaviours, I would fail miserably.





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

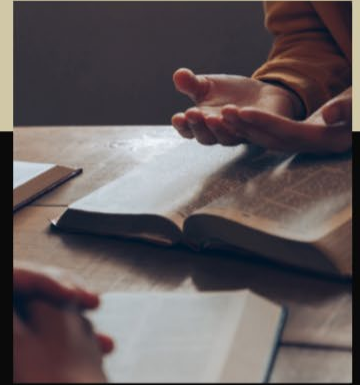
- **When God measures me, I pray that he would apply the spirit of forgiveness and give me love and hope.**





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

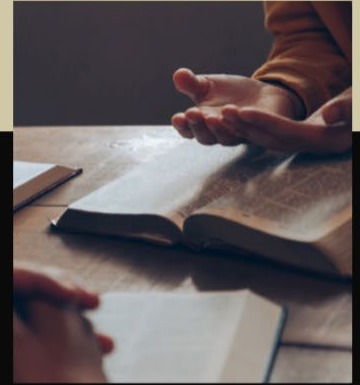
- **By our actions and attitude, we can either create a judgemental and condemning culture or we can choose to create a giving and forgiving culture.**





4) What should characterise us as Christians?

- **What kind of environment do you want to create?**



Conclusion



MATTHEW 7:12 (NIV)

**So in everything, do to others what you
would have them do to you, for this
sums up the Law and the Prophets.**

