

A Revival Of Our Hearts #13
“Quit Playing God”
Cornerstone Church Of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
June 28, 2020

Big Idea: We need a revival in our hearts and homes that changes our lives.

“Come close to God, and God will come close to you.” **James 4:8a (NLT2)**

Remember Verse

“Brothers, do not **slander** one another. Anyone who **speaks against** his brother or **judges** him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. There is only **one Lawgiver and Judge**, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you--who are you to judge your neighbor?” **James 4:11-12 (NIV)**

How Do We Break The Habit Of Judging Others?

Remember:

1. We Will Be Judged By The Same Standards _____.

“Do not judge others, so that God will not judge you, for God will judge you **in the same way you judge others**, and He will apply to you the same rules you apply to others.” **Matthew 7:1-2 (TEV)**

“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”

Psalms 139:23-24 (NIV)

Notes: _____

2. Each Of Us Is _____.

“Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters.”

Romans 14:1 (NIV)

“So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God. Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way.” **Romans 14:12-13 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

3. God Has Been _____ To Us.

“**Speak** and **act** as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because **judgment without mercy** will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. **Mercy triumphs over judgment!**” **James 2:12-13 (NIV)**

“Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should **gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path**. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself. Share each other’s burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.” **Galatians 6:1-2 (NLT2)**

➤ **Where do I need to stop judging and show mercy?**

My next right step, I will:

- Ask God to point out any area that offends Him
- Stop arguing over disputable matters
- Show mercy to everyone
- Ask Jesus to be my Lord and Savior

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Family Corner: [Choose one day this week to ask questions to go deeper in faith as a family. Try this over dinner. Keep it to 12 minutes or less.]

Small Groups: [Choose as many questions that honor your group's time commitment]

Open in Prayer:

- What thoughts from this week's message encourage me to live like Jesus?

Icebreaker: Who did you quarrel with most while growing up?
 What purchase is high on your “wish list”?

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Remember Verse

Read James 4:11-12

What is inherently wrong about judging others?

Life Application Bible Commentary - SILENCING SLANDER

To silence slander we must regularly examine our attitudes and actions toward others. Do we build people up or tear them down? When we are ready to criticize someone, we ought to remember God's law of love and say something good instead. Saying something beneficial to others will cure us of finding fault and increase our ability to obey God's law of love. For those immersed in a culture that thrives on criticism and slander, Jesus set a standard to guide each of us: "I tell you, forgive your brother not seven times, but seventy-seven times" ([Matthew 18:22](#) niv). One practical approach to silencing a slandering habit is to practice making seven positive, encouraging statements for every critical one we make.

The MacArthur Study Bible. Do not speak against.

This means to slander or defame. James does not forbid confronting those in sin, which is elsewhere commanded in Scripture (Mt 18:15-17; Ac 20:31; 1Co 4:14; Col 1:28; Titus 1:13; 2:15; 3:10). Rather, he condemns careless, derogatory, critical, slanderous accusations against others (cf. Ex 23:1; Pss 50:20; 101:5; 140:11; Pr 10:18; 11:9; 16:28; 17:9; 26:20; Ro 1:29; 2Co 12:20; Eph 4:31; 1Ti 3:11; 2Ti 3:3; Titus 2:3; 3:2).

How Do We Break The Habit Of Judging Others?

Remember:

1. We Will Be Judged By The Same Standards We Use To Judge Others.

Read Matthew 7:1-5

What is Jesus calling for: No judgement? Self-judgment? Fair judgement? Divine judgment? Other?

Psalm 139:23-24

In this prayer, David is asking God to reveal anything that offends God.

Are you willing and open to letting God reveal where you offend Him?

2. Each Of Us Is Accountable To God.

Romans 14:1-13

What disputable matters divide the church today?

How do you react to those who have more strict convictions?

How do you react to those who have more lenient convictions?

Regarding these grey areas, how can both sides stop judging each other?

3. God Has Been Merciful To Us.

Read James 2:12-13

How has God shone mercy to you in your life?

How has He shone mercy to your family and friends?

How can you be more merciful to others during this time?

Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.
