



*"Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know.
One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I
see." (John 9:26)*

Judge Not?

“Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged...” (Matt. 7:1-2)

“Who are you to judge another?” (Jam. 4:12)

Can I judge anything?

Those in positions of responsibility

■ Parents

- “Do not withhold instruction from a child, for if you should strike him with a rod, he would not die; for you shall strike him with a rod and deliver his soul from death”. (Prov. 23:13-14 LXX)
- Ex: Eli the Priest
 - “Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all the people. **No, my sons! For it is not a good report that I hear...** Nevertheless they did not heed the voice of their father.” (1 Sam. 2:22,25)
 - **“The LORD was angry with Eli because he did not rebuke his children:** Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. 12 In that day I will perform against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. 13 For I have told him **that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he did not restrain them.**” (1 Sam. 3:11-13)

Those in positions of responsibility

- Spiritual fathers

- “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore hear a word from My mouth, and give them warning from Me: 18 When I say to the wicked, You shall surely die, and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand.” (Ezk. 3:17-18)
- “Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.” (Ezk. 3:19)
- Ex: Sts. Peter and Paul

Those in positions of responsibility

- Other positions of responsibility
 - Teachers
 - Supervisors/Managers
 - Court judges
 - Physicians



Distinguishing between good and evil

- “You will know them by their fruits.”
(Matt. 7:16 & 20)



We are commanded to judge and expose sin

- “And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.” (Eph. 5:11)
- How to expose sin?
 - By Example
 - Constructive reproof



Tips for constructive reproof

- Should be done politely, humbly, and in love
 - “Now when Abigail saw David, she dismounted quickly from the donkey, **fell on her face before David**, and **bowed down to the ground**. 24 So she **fell at his feet** and said: **On me, my lord, on me let this iniquity be!** And please let **your maidservant speak in your ears**, and hear the words of your maidservant. 25 Please, let not my lord regard this scoundrel Nabal. For as his name is, so is he: Nabal is his name, and folly is with him! But I, **your maidservant**, did not see the young men of my lord whom you sent.

Tips for constructive reproof

- 26 Now therefore, **my lord**, as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, **since the Lord has held you back from coming to bloodshed and from avenging yourself with your own hand**, now then, let your enemies and those who seek harm for my lord be as Nabal. 27 And now this present which your maidservant has brought to my lord, let it be given to the young men who follow my lord. 28 **Please forgive the trespass of your maidservant.**" (1 Sam. 25:23-28)

Tips for constructive reproof

- Be fair
 - Ex: Eli and Hannah
- Choose the right time
- Choose the right place
 - “Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone.” (Matt. 18:15)
 - Praise publicly and criticize privately.



Summary

- When is okay to judge?
 - Those placed in positions of responsibility
 - Distinguishing between good and evil
 - We are commanded to judge and expose sin
- How to expose sin?
 - By example
 - Constructive reproof
 - Should be done politely, humbly, and in love
 - Be fair
 - Choose the right time
 - Choose the right place