

A white lamb with a small yellow tag on its ear stands in a lush green field. The lamb is facing left, looking slightly away from the camera. The grass is tall and vibrant green, with some dry stalks visible. The background is a soft-focus expanse of more green grass.

# The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5 to 7)

9. Ask, seek, knock





# He is risen!

*“Blessed are the poor in spirit...”*

A large, circular stone slab is leaning against a rough, grey stone wall. The wall has a rectangular opening or niche. The scene is outdoors, with some green grass visible on the left side. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

*You call me **Teacher** and **Lord**,  
and you are right, for so I am.*

(John 13:13)

# “Learn from Me...”

## **Matthew 7:1-6**

- Do not judge...

## **Matthew 7:7-11**

- Ask, seek, knock...

## **Matthew 7:12**

- Therefore...



**Judge not,  
that you be not judged.**

For with the judgement you pronounce  
you will be judged,  
and with the measure you use  
it will be measured to you.  
(Matthew 7:1-2)



Luke 6:37-38:

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



## Pause and consider:

- The Lord is speaking to **His disciples**
- He speaks to them of **their Father** in heaven
- He is teaching them **how to live** as His disciples
- They are to be **truly righteous** – from the heart
- **God will be to them what they are to others**
  - ✓ Do not judge and you will not be judged
  - ✓ The measure you use will be measured to you
  - ✓ Forgive and you will be forgiven



## Matthew 7:3-5

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?

*Let me take **the speck**  
out of your eye...*

**You hypocrite,**  
first take the log  
out of your own eye,  
and then you will see clearly  
to take the speck  
out of your brother's eye.

Speck

Log







## **Why are we so blind?**

We see the failings of others  
but are blind to our own.

We condemn others  
while excusing ourselves.

# Why are we so blind?

...you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do,  
in **the futility of their minds**.

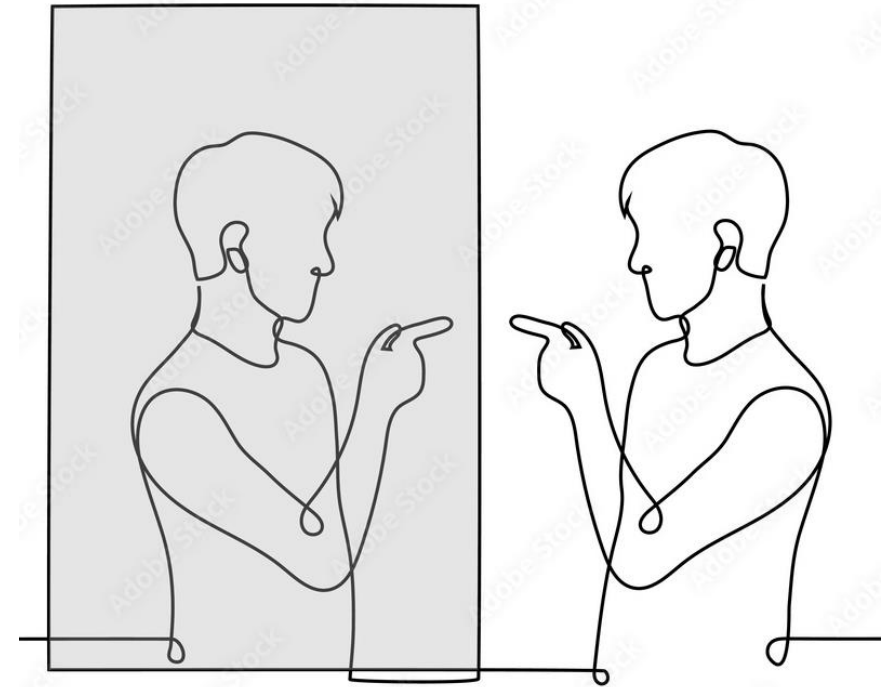
They are **darkened** in their understanding,  
**alienated** from the life of God  
because of the **ignorance** that is in them,  
due to their **hardness** of heart.

(Ephesians 4:17-18)

How can  
such a person  
condemn another?

Our natural condition

# Why are we so blind?



Perhaps I am  
only seeing myself...



# Why are we so blind?

When we can't see our own sinfulness,  
**there is a log in our eye!**

When we admit that we too are fallen,  
we can **help** and **encourage**  
**our brethren**  
in genuine humility.

If anyone thinks he is something,  
when he is nothing,  
he deceives himself.  
(Galatians 6:3)

# Matthew 7:6

As food

Do not give dogs what is holy,  
and do not throw your pearls before pigs,  
lest they [*the pigs*] trample them underfoot  
and [*the dogs*] turn to attack you.

As if food

I am sending you out as sheep  
in the midst of wolves...

(Matthew 10:16)



# “Learn from Me...”

## Matthew 7:1-6

- Do not judge...

## Matthew 7:7-11

- Ask, seek, knock...

## Matthew 7:12

- Therefore...



# Ask Seek Knock



**Ask**, and it will be given to you;  
**seek**, and you will find;  
**knock**, and it will be opened to you.

For **everyone** who asks receives,  
and the one who seeks finds,  
and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

(Matthew 7:7-8)

# Ask Seek Knock

Or which one of you,  
if his son asks him for **bread**, will give him a **stone**?  
Or if he asks for a **fish**, will give him a **serpent**?

If you then, who are **evil**, ←  
know how to give good gifts to **your children**, ←

→ **how much more** will **your Father** who is in heaven  
give **good things** to those who ask Him!

(Matthew 7:9-11)

*...how much more will your heavenly Father  
give **the Holy Spirit** to those who ask Him!*

(Luke 11:13)

One thing have I asked of the LORD,  
that will I seek after...

(Psalm 27:4)

Draw near to God,  
and He will draw near to you.

(James 4:8)

**A**sk  
**S**eek  
**K**nock

Seek the LORD while He may be found;  
call upon Him while He is near...

(Isaiah 55:6)

I press toward the goal for the prize  
of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 3:14)



# “Learn from Me...”

## Matthew 7:1-6

- Do not judge...

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- Therefore...

# Therefore...

## “The Golden Rule”

So whatever you wish  
that others would do to you,  
do also to them,  
for this is the Law and the Prophets.  
(Matthew 7:12)

So whatever you wish  
that others would do to you,  
do also to them

If you really fulfill **the royal law** according to the Scripture,  
*“You shall love your neighbour as yourself,”*  
you are doing well.  
(James 2:8)

Love does no wrong to a neighbour;  
therefore **love** is the fulfilling of the law.  
(Romans 13:10)

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word:  
*“You shall love your neighbour as yourself.”*  
(Galatians 5:14)

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word:  
“*You shall love your neighbour as yourself.*”

(Galatians 5:14)

A photograph of an ancient stone tomb entrance. A large, smooth, light-colored stone is rolled away from the entrance, revealing a dark interior. The stone is positioned on the left side of the frame. The entrance is a rectangular opening in the rock. The surrounding rock is rough and weathered. The text "He is risen!" is overlaid in the center of the image.

**He is risen!**