INTRODUCTION:

C. S. Lewis: "If Christianity is true why are not all Christians obviously nicer than non-Christians? ... When Christians behave badly, or fail to behave well, we are making Christianity unbelievable to the outside world." (Mere Christianity, b3, ch10)

Signs of being judgmental

- 1. You rate others based on their appearance
- 2. You constantly gossip about others
- 3. You form opinions of others based off what people say
- 4. You assume people are lying without evidence
- 5. You rate people based off the people they hang out with
- 6. You leave no room for mistakes or forgiveness
- 7. You are disgusted with people who disagree with you
- 8. You maintain a negative outlook or mood
- 9. You always take other peoples inventory¹

Matthew 7:1-7

"Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

"Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

"Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and then turn and tear you to pieces."

I. The Definition of Judgement?

Notes:

John 8:6-11

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

"No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

II. The Delusion of Judgment

Notes:

John 3:17

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

III. The Danger of Judgement

Notes:

Romans 2:1-4

You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. So when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance?

IV. The Divine Judgment

Notes:

Romans 2:11

For God does not show favoritism.

John 12:47-50

"As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it. There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day. For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it. I know that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say."

Psalm 96:10-13

Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns." The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.
Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it;
let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them. Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy;
they will sing before the LORD, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his truth.

CONCLUSION:

Tip #1) Seek wisdom and discernment before you speak about sensitive issues. "Wisdom is found on the lips of the discerning" (Proverbs 10:13).

Tip #2) Develop an awareness and sensitivity towards others who've made bad choices.

"Do to others what you would have them do to you" (Matthew 7:12).

Tip #3) Resist the temptation to make quick opinions about people you know (or don't know).

"Eli thought she was drunk and said to her, "How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine" (*1 Samuel 1:14*).

Tip #4) Accept the truth that only God knows everything about every person. "Motives are weighed by the Lord" (*Proverbs 16:2*).

Tip #5) Intercede for those who walk in darkness to come to the light of Christ. "For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors" (*Isaiah 53:12*)

Tip #6) Be open-minded about the different ways people choose to worship God.

"True worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth" (John 4:23).

Tip #7) Meditate on how Jesus interacted with the "sinners" during His earthly ministry.

"'Then neither do I condemn you,' Jesus declared. 'Go now and leave your life of sin'" (John 8:11).

Tip #8) Respect the diversity within the body of Christ throughout the world.

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it" (*1 Corinthians 12:27*).

Tip #9) Understand the Biblical concept of speaking truth with a loving attitude.

"Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow" (Ephesians 4:15).

Tip #10) Shine the light of Christ in such a way that people are drawn to Jesus and not driven away.⁴

"For God...made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:6).

⁴Read more: <u>https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/how-to-not-be-too-judgmental-10-christian-tips/#ixzz5dT6Qtkht</u>

The Pastor And The Glass Of Water

"A lady went to her Pastor and said 'Pastor, I won't be going to your church anymore."

The Pastor responded 'But why?'

The lady said 'Ah! I saw a woman gossiping [sic] about another member; a man that is a hypocrite; the worship team living wrong; people looking at their phone during service; among so many other things wrong in your church.'

The Pastor replied 'OK. But before you go, do me a favor: take a full glass of water and walk around the church three times without spilling a drop on the ground. Afterwards, leave the church if you desire.'

The lady thought: too easy! She walked three times around the church as the Pastor had asked. When she finished she told the Pastor she was ready to leave.

The Pastor said, 'Before you leave I want to ask you one more question. When you were walking around the church, did you see anyone gossiping [sic]?'

The lady replied 'No.'

'Did you see any hypocrites?'

The lady said 'No.'

'Anyone looking at their phone?'

'No. '

'You know why?'

'No. '

'You were focused on the glass, to make sure you didn't stumble and spill any water. It's the same with our life. When we keep our eyes on Jesus, we don't have time to focus on the mistakes of others. We will reach out a helping hand to them and concentrate on our own walk with the Lord.'"⁵