

1 Judging the judges

- When is it good to air one's opinion?

2 The 83rd Academy awards

- This Sunday evening is the 83rd Academy Awards.
- Hollywood will award best actors, directors, films and technicians with the prestigious gold statuette called the Oscar.
- Already the rumor mill is going wild with speculations and predictions.

3 Who Will Win?

- Currently, King's Speech is nominated for 12 Academy Awards. If they win them all, they will have won the most Oscars ever.
- What movie has been nominated for the most Oscars?
- What movie has won the most Oscars? Hint: It is a three way tie.
- So in your humble opinion what movie will win the Academy Award for Best Picture?

4 The Nominees are . . .

- List of nominees . . .
 - Black Swan
 - The Fighter
 - Inception
 - The Kids Are All Right
 - King's Speech
 - 127 Hours
 - The Social Network
 - Toy Story 3
 - True Grit
 - Winter's Bone

5 My opinion!

6 Who are the Judges?

- The panel of award judges is the actual Academy at large, which is made up of 6,000 actors, producers, and cinema executives.
- They receive their ballots just after Christmas and make their final votes a week before the award ceremony.
- However, when the results are known . . . that's when the fireworks begin.
- The films will be off the hook, and the judges will be judged instead.
- In fact, the Oscars are only one example of an entertainment industry dominated by judging.

7 Reality TV

- Reality TV is ruled by Judges
 - American Idol
 - So You Think You Can Dance?
 - America’s Got Talent
 - Last Comic Standing
 - America’s Next Top Model
- Sports is ruled by Judges
- So what happens when one of these judges makes a controversial decision?
- Again, the judges are judged.

8 Simon Cowell “Quotes”

- “I think you have to judge everything based on your personal taste. And if that means being critical, so be it. I hate political correctness. I absolutely loathe it.”
- “If your lifeguard duties were as good as your singing, a lot of people would be drowning.”
- “Harshness to me is giving somebody false hopes. Telling some guy or some girl who’ve got zero talent that they have zero talent actually is a kindness.”

9 Judging in the Church

- It’s a good thing there’s no such judging and controversies in the church!
- I always hear, “Hey Pastor, I thought you hit another home run with your sermon.”
- But to tell you the truth, people can be judgmental and delight in airing their own opinions.
- In fact, we live in a judgmental world and are constantly evaluated and second guessed by others.

10 Judging

- We’re judged in terms of:
 - Our achievements,
 - Our competence,
 - Our personality,
 - Our looks,
 - Our social status,
 - Our children and their accomplishments, and
 - Our bank accounts.

11 The Facts about Judging

- The word in the New Testament for “to judge” is krino and carries three general meanings:
 - to evaluate,

- to decide,
- to condemn.

- The first two are encouraged in believers; while the third is forbidden.

12 Examples of Usage

- In the Apostle Paul's letter to the Corinthians, krino is used as follows . . .
 - Discerning spiritual truths (2:15),
 - Evaluating ungodly behavior of other believers, not unbelievers (5:12),
 - Deciding between two options (7:37),
 - Evaluating the truth of teachings (10:15),
 - Judging our own sin and motives (11:31).

13 Judging that is off Limits

- The type of judging that both the Apostle Paul and Jesus prohibit is judgment that is condemnation.
- In other words, judgment that is wrong is when we go beyond judging behavior to judging motives.
- Judging motives is God's responsibility.
- Since he sees everything and knows our thoughts, he's able to make right judgments.

14 The Verdict

- Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God. (1 Cor 4:5 NIV)
- All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the LORD. (Prov 16:2 NIV)
- Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. (Heb 4:13 NIV)
- Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. (1 Pet 1:17 NIV)

15 Judging Behavior

- So Christians should leave all judgments in God's hands? Right?
- Then how to do explain the following verses . . .
 - What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you." (1 Cor 5:12-13 NIV)
 - Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment. (John 7:24 NIV)

16 Making right judgments

17 The Answer

- As Christians . . .
 - We are not to judge the motives of people’s hearts.
 - However, we are to judge behavior and use church discipline when needed.
 - We do this by making “right judgments” and letting those who are mature in the Lord to carry them out.

18 How to make right Judgments

- “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.” (Matt 7:3-5 NIV)
- According to the above verses, when should someone address an issue with someone behavioral?
 - After they have addressed and taken care of issues in their own life. Why?
 - Because now they have something to give that would be useful and helpful.

19 Judging Ourselves

- Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves (2 Cor 13:5 NIV)
- If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Each one should test his own actions. (Gal 6:3-4 NIV)
- Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the LORD. (Lam 3:40 NIV)
- But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. (1 Cor 11:31 NIV)

20 Conclusion

- Judging people’s motives is always wrong and will result in serious spiritual consequences.
- But so will not maintaining standards within the church and in our homes because we won’t judge wrong behavior.
 - This calls for us to first judge ourselves.
 - Then we’ll know how to not only help others, but will have the humility needed to speak to their need.
- So if you are ready to start judging others, first let us judge ourselves.

21 The Lord’s Supper

- A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.
- That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.
- But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. (1 Cor 11:28-31 NIV)