



THE ORCHARD

Series: The Revival We Need

Title: The Practices We Need

Passage: Matthew 7:1-14

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September 28, 2025

Outline:

1. A Christian should not judge others
2. A Christian should have discernment and wisdom
3. A Christian must pray persistently
4. A Christian must do to others what they wish done to themselves
5. A Christian must choose the narrow road

Application:

1. Do not be prideful and judge others
2. Do not let humility become gullibility
3. Be bold in prayer for God's work on Earth
4. Love your enemies
5. Enter the narrow gate

Questions:

1. What stood out to you most from this week's sermon, and why?
2. In Matthew 7:1–5, Jesus warns against judging others. Why is judgmentalism such a subtle temptation for Christians?
3. Jesus uses the image of a "speck" and a "log." How does this imagery help us understand our need for humility and self-awareness before we help others/hold them accountable?
4. In verse 6, Jesus warns against throwing pearls before swine. How do we balance showing compassion with practicing discernment in who we share spiritual truths with?
5. In verses 7–11, Jesus calls us to ask, seek, and knock. How does this challenge our personal prayer life?
6. Jesus compares God's answering of our prayers to a father giving good gifts to his children. What does this teach us about God's character, and how does it encourage us to pray with confidence?
7. Verse 12 is often called the "Golden Rule." Are there people in your life with whom you constantly find yourself fighting and having conflict with? How would you want them to treat you? How do you think the dynamic would change if you did everything you can to bless those people?
8. In verses 13–14, Jesus describes the narrow gate and the wide road. Why do you think the narrow road is so difficult and unpopular? What makes the narrow road so hard to walk?
9. Do you have any other comments or questions regarding this passage?