

Sermon Questions: Are Christians Judgmental Hypocrites?

1. Pastor Mark describes “Ms. Helen,” a woman who was very involved in the church where he grew up, but she did not demonstrate Christian virtues of love, grace and kindness. Have you ever encountered someone like “Miss Helen?” If so, what were your impressions?
2. Why do you think so many un-churched people describe Christians as “judgmental hypocrites?”
3. Pastor Mark points out that we are all hypocrites, in the sense that we don’t always live up to the values and virtues we profess. Do you think that is true? Share a time when you failed to live up to your values and virtues?
4. Do you think it is possible today to stand up for something you believe to be true and right without being described as “judgmental” by those who disagree with you?
5. In your mind, what is the difference between sharing your deepest convictions and being judgmental?
6. How can modern-day Christians find a balance between not caring at all about how they come across with other people and caring too much about what people think?
7. Pastor Mark tells the story of the Presbyterian Pastor who put a sign out in front of his church stating: “Bruce Jenner is still a man, homosexuality is still a sin. Culture may change but the Bible does not.” Do you find these comments to be “judgmental?” Why or why not?
8. Read Colossians 4:6. Why is it important to care about how we express our views around people who may not be Christians?
9. Pastor Mark reminds us that one way to avoid being a judgmental is to “turn frustration into fascination.” How can curiosity help us avoid being judgmental?
10. Another way we can avoid being judgmental hypocrites is to remember that we are Ambassadors for Christ. Read 2 Corinthians 5:20. How does remembering that we are “Ambassadors for Christ” impact the way we handle ourselves in difficult circumstances and conversations with people who hold beliefs that are different from ours?