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### **Judging Others** By Rick Artis

Scripture:

Luke 6:37-42

37 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. 38 Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

39 He also told them this parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? 40 A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher.

41 "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? 42 How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,' when you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Theme:

Judge not, lest you be judged.

Applications:

Judgment  
Personal introspection  
Effective personal evangelism

Cast:

2 men

Setting:

City sidewalk

Time:

Mid day

Characters:

'Judge' John

Mike

Props:

Gavel

Judge's robe

Newspaper box or other suitable street side 'bench' for judge

Performance time:

Approx. 4 minutes

John- (*banging gavel*)

Bailiff, call the next case.

Mike- (*looking around for whatever he's talking about*)

I don't think there is a next case, 'Judge'. (*somewhat sarcastically*) How's it going, John?

John-

Oh, we had quite a case load today. Six gossips, eight liars, three thieves, four adulterers, nineteen blasphemers, and one guy who was all of the above.

Mike-

John, what exactly are you doing?

John-

What does it look like? I'm holding court. These people need to pay for their sins. Their case comes up. I look at the evidence and pass sentence.

Mike-

John, you're not 'holding court'. You're standing on the sidewalk in front of a sandwich shop pounding a gavel on a newspaper box, passing judgment on everyone who happens to be passing by.

John-

Well someone has to do it. How else will they know that what they're doing is wrong?

Mike-

And you're the chosen one to be doing this?

John-

Why not? Who better?

Mike-

Let's see. Do you remember when you told me that you thought your neighbor was having an affair?

John-

Sure what about it? I was simply letting you know that something was amiss.

Mike-

Did you have any proof?

John-

Well, no, not really.

Mike-

That sounds like gossip to me. What about the time you told your boss you were sick, but really we were just late getting back from the game in Cleveland?

John-  
I didn't want to get fired.

Mike-  
But wasn't that a lie?

John-  
Yeah I guess...

Mike-  
How about when you tucked that stapler into your briefcase and didn't take it back?

John-  
It was just a stapler...

Mike-  
Was it yours?

(Continues...)