

NOTES:



March 18, 20-21, 2010  
**MESSAGE NOTES**  
***Church Wounds***

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**The Wounded Church:  
Judgmentalism and Excessive Control**  
*Francis Anfuso*

- 42% of respondents who took our **Church Wounds Survey** said "judgmentalism" was their #1 most common church wound (out of 26 options)
- In a nationwide survey of 16-29 year olds outside of the Christian faith described in the book, ***Unchristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity...and Why It Matters***, 87% of these young outsiders believe Christians are overly judgmental.

*Matthew 7:1 (NIV)*

Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

*John 7:24*

Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.

*1Samuel 16:7b*

For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.

John 12:48 (NET)

The one who rejects Me and does not accept My words has a judge; the word I have spoken will judge him at the last day.

*“The Church, particularly in the Western world, has little salt and light left. We have spent **too much time judging** the world, and **too little time loving it**. By constantly rebuking the culture for its sin, we have not modeled the heart of God. All we have accomplished is provoking them to be angry with us.”* -Ken Birks

Romans 14:10


But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

Romans 14:12-13

So then each of us shall give account of himself to God. Therefore **let us not judge one another anymore**, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother’s way.

**We break Christ’s command “not to judge” when we...**

- ...think the \_\_\_\_\_ of others.
- ...only speak to others about their \_\_\_\_\_.
- ...judge an entire life only by its worst moments.
- ...judge the hidden motives of others.
- ...judge others without considering \_\_\_\_\_ in their same circumstances.
- ...judge others without being mindful that we ourselves will be \_\_\_\_\_.

 **ma·nip·u·la·tion** (*noun*): to control or play upon by artful, unfair, or insidious means especially to one's own advantage; to change by artful or unfair means so as to serve one's purpose  
-Merriam-Webster Dictionary

**Examples of Manipulation and Control in the Bible**

- Potiphar’s wife tried to get Joseph to sleep with her (Genesis 39:6-13)
- Delilah tried to get Samson to reveal the secret of his strength (Judges 16:5-21)
- King Saul tried to hold on to the kingdom by killing David (1Samuel 19)
- Ahab sulks about a vineyard in hopes that his wife, Jezebel, would get it for him (1Kings 21:1-15)
- Elymas the sorcerer tried to turn the proconsul away from Christianity (Acts 13:6-12)

*“My father was a leader in a fundamentalist church. He was prideful, judgmental and controlled me through guilt. To him our church was right and everyone else was wrong. Then we moved churches and only the new church was right.”*

-Church Wounds Survey respondent