

# GROWING IN FAITH



## Scripture

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

“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.

- Matthew 7:1-5

## GOING DEEPER

1. Jesus never actually said, “love the sinner”. He did say, “love your neighbor”.

What is the difference?

How does loving our neighbor affect our perspective of a person as opposed to loving the sinner?

2. In the story told in Luke 7 Jesus looks at the woman who is called a sinner in a very different way than Simon the Pharisee.

How does Jesus see people differently?

How can we deal with our biases and value judgments to view those different from us in a new way?

3. Jesus in Matthew 7 said it is often easier for us to see the speck in our neighbor’s eye but never notice the log in our own eye.

Why do we have such difficulty seeing people’s faults but tend to overlook our own?

Do you agree with Billy Graham who said it is God’s job to judge but as Christians it is our job to love?