



Four Faith: Vision 2011
Faith for Ministry Life
Ministry Effectiveness in 2011

1-Faith for Life: What I Stand On

2-Faith for Life Style: How I Live

3-Faith for Ministry Life: How I Serve

4-Faith for Missional Life: How I Witness

Introduction: In the first message we suggested four things to do this year, 'read with passion,' pray with faith,' 'give with joy,' and love without

partiality.' The next message we learned that our life should be characterized by, light, calling, power, going, giving, discernment and sacrifice. Today we learn from Jesus five critical motivations necessary to make a difference in the lives of the people we minister to.

1. Judge NOT *Matt 7:1-2*

It's not about decisions: God does expect us to use judgment in making wise decisions.

It's about a critical spirit: You will not have effective ministry if you have a judgmental/critical spirit.

Measuring others: GK 'metron' always measuring others to see if they 'measure' up.

2. Fix NOT *Matt 7:3-5*

But they need it God: I usually recognize what someone else needs fixed because I also need it fixed. God says we're a 'hypocrite' unless we FIRST let Him work on our own problems.

3. Push NOT *Matt 7:6*

It's about timing: God's timing is fundamental to ministry. When a person is obviously NOT ready for the gospel or ministry we are NOT to push it upon them. Ministry to those who are not ready or who only want temporary relief can consume huge amounts of time and energy that can be better used with someone else.

4. Pray FOR *Matt 7:7-11*

What are we to do? So if I am NOT supposed to judge, fix or push—what can I do? We can pray.

Ministry power: When this passage is taken in context it is NOT about what God can do for me, but what He can do THROUGH me for others. This is the heart of ministry.

The good thing: [11] What is the 'good thing' you are asking, seeking and knocking for? Paul mostly prayed for 'good things' for others. *Eph 1:16-19; Col 1:3; 9-11*. Without prayer we cannot expect to have an effective ministry to others.

5. Do FOR *Matt 7:12*

The prophet's said so: This kind of doing is not simply doing good works because of a kind heart. This is supernatural motivation such as Ezekiel prophesied in *Ezk 11:19-20*.

Mercy ministry: The Good Samaritan is the classic example of the spirit of what Jesus is saying in this verse. [See *Luke 11:25-37*]. The Samaritan showed 'mercy.' Mercy was the heart of Jesus ministry, "I will have mercy and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." *Matt 9:13* This is a **MERCY** heart!

Thanks to Gary Tyra, "Defeating Pharisaism" for his insights into this passage.
GaryTyra.com

Matthew 7:1-12 (KJV)

1. Judge NOT

1 Judge not, that ye be not judged. **2** For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

2. Fix NOT

3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? **4** Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? **5** Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

3. Push NOT

6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

4. Pray FOR

7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? **10** Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?

11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

5. Do FOR

12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.