

From the Pastor

Continuing with our study of Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount the next section in Matthew 7:1-5 deals with the subject of judging others. Jesus' first statement is "Judge not that you be not judged." The margin of the NKJV (published by Thomas Nelson, Inc.) for judge gives the word "condemn."

The Greek translated "judge" is "krino" in both verses 1 and 2. "Krino" like many words has more than one meaning (or, usages – i.e. it is used in different ways). According to Danker's Lexicon it can mean:

- To make a selection, select, prefer
- To pass judgment upon, judge, pass judgment upon, express an opinion about
- To make a judgment based on taking various factors into account, judge, think, consider, look upon
- To come to a conclusion after a cognitive process, reach a decision, decide, propose, intend
- To engage in a judicial process, judge, hale before a court, condemn, hand over for judicial punishment (Danker lists Matthew 7:1, 2 in this usage)

We have always taken this verse to mean "do not condemn so we will not be condemned." The point being that we must not be presumptuous and take to ourselves a prerogative that is God's alone.

God is the sole judge of what issues from a person's heart. David was inspired to write in 1 Chronicles 29:17, "I know also my God, that You test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness..." In Psalm 50:6 (a psalm of Asaph) we read, "Let the heavens declare His righteousness, for God Himself is Judge."

Paul in Romans 2:16 wrote, "In the day when God will judge (krino) the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel."

But, we must understand that "krino" (to judge) does not always refer to a prerogative of God. In John 7:24 we read, "Do not judge (krino) according to appearance, but judge (krino) righteous judgment." We all must evaluate the rightness or wrongness of our actions. We are exhorted to examine ourselves before the Passover and always (1 Corinthians 11:28; 2 Corinthians 13:5).

Sometimes we also examine other people's actions, but, when we do God gives warning about motes and beams (Matthew 7:3-5). Further, in Galatians 6:1-5 Paul gives the following instructions, "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted...But let each one examine his own work... For each one shall bear his own load."

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Goose Island
Sunset Today in:	7:41pm	7:42pm	7:41pm
Sunset Friday 3-30	7:44pm	7:45pm	7:44pm



Victoria

Sermon: Ralph Levy - DVD

Corpus Christi

*No Local Services
Goose Island Campout
Bible Study-Steve Moody*

Harlingen

*No Local Services
Goose Island Campout
Schmidt Home-DVD*

"For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself."
Galatians 6:3

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 3/24	Regular times and locations for San Antonio and Victoria. Corpus Christi will be meeting at Goose Island campground for Bible Study at 1:00 p.m. Harlingen members will meet at Al and Donna Schmidt's Home for a DVD sermon.
Passover 3/29	Corpus Christi: 7:40 p.m. at regular location San Antonio: 7:45 p.m. at regular location Victoria: 7:40 p.m. at regular location Harlingen: 7:40 p.m. at regular location
1st Day of Feast of Unleavened Bread	Regular times and locations for all congregations.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

Houston Dinner Dance from Jim Servidio, pastor of Houston North:

The Houston congregations invite you to join us for our upcoming Spring dinner dance on April 7th. Here is the link to register:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfP8fapvv-vmnzMDkSr2oQGm2tA2Yut_quqkACITNLoGnnAQg/viewform

2018 Camp Applications

The camp application system is now open. Simply go to your COGWA portal account, look under the Events area on the bottom left of your account main page and click on the "Click Here to Apply." If you do not already have a COGWA portal account, go to the "Apply" page of the camp website (<http://camps.cogwa.org/apply/>) and click the link in the second paragraph for instructions on how to set up your portal account. Details about each camp can be found on the individual camp pages of the camp website.

Please note that we need a NEW photo (taken within the three months before an application is submitted) of each person that applies for camp to use in case of a medical emergency. If you need to upload a new photo, go to your portal account home page, find the name of the person applying for camp at the top right of the page under the "Household Members" heading and click the camera icon. Follow the instructions to upload a new photo and make that the default profile image. We would also like to remind everyone that we want all COGWA attendees who wish to attend

camp to have that opportunity. To help ensure that, we offer scholarship help (generally a partial tuition scholarship) to those who need it to be sure they can attend one camp this year. Simply contact the camp director to request a scholarship to get the process started.

Ken Treybig
CYC Overall Coordinator

Goose Island Campout: March 23-25, 2018 Bible Study is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Sabbath

Passover: Observed Thursday evening, March 29, 2018. Time: 7:40 p.m. Corpus Christi, Harlingen, & Victoria

Night to Be Much Observed: Friday evening, March 30, 2018. Mark and Amalia Monsivais have graciously opened their home for this event. Please see Mark or Amalia and let them know if you will be attending this event at their home.

Feast of Unleavened Bread – First Holy Day: Sabbath, March 31, 2018.

Time: Victoria – 10:00 a.m.
Corpus Christi – 3:00 p.m.
Harlingen—10:00 a.m.

Feast of Unleavened Bread – Last Holy Day: Friday, April 6, 2018.

Time: Victoria – 10:00 a.m.
Corpus Christi & Harlingen – The Harlingen congregation will combine with the Corpus Christi congregation for services at 1:00 p.m. There will be a potluck after services. The Harlingen congregation will provide dessert.