

The Golden Rule  
Matthew 7:1-12  
Key Verse: 7:12

1. Read verses 1-6. What does it mean to judge? Why should we not judge others? (2)
2. What does it mean to see the speck of sawdust in a brother's eye and not see the plank in one's own eye? (3) How is this related to judging another? Why does Jesus use the word "hypocrite"? How can we see to remove the speck in another's eye? (4,5) Why should we?
3. Why should we not give sacred things to dogs or give pearls to pigs? (6) How does this seem to make an exception to the admonition not to judge? How can you explain this? Summarize the teaching of these first 6 verses.
4. Read verses 7-8. What is the promise here? What is the progression in these verses? Read verses 9-11. What do these verses teach us about our relationship to God? How can we be sure that God will hear and answer our prayer? What do verses 7-11 teach us about prayer?
5. Why does God not always give what we ask for? (7:9,11)(6:10,32) (Jas 4:2,3) Read verse 12. Based on our relationship to our Father God, how should we treat others? How does this sum up the Law and the Prophets? (5:17,43-44; Lk10:26-27)