

GOSPEL PEARLS

The priority

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Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not judge, and you will not be judged; because the judgements you give are the judgements you will get, and the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How dare you say to your brother, "Let me take the splinter out of your eye," when all the time there is a plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take the splinter out of your brother's eye.'
(Matthew 7, 1-5)

Wherever we are and whatever we are doing we feel a desire to correct others, but that shouldn't be our first concern. In fact, we should be thinking about improving ourselves before. This is why we are relentless when it comes to judging others, but pass over our own errors. Jesus' teaching reverses this way of thinking. We must correct ourselves first. How many times in the last week did you criticised others and how much energy have you spent on correcting your own vices?