

## **The King's Call to Prayerful, Persevering Balance**

Matthew 7:1-12

**Thesis:** King Jesus calls His people to persevere in Kingdom living, which must strike a balance between fighting to grow in righteousness while avoiding being judgmental toward others. Such living is only possible through ongoing childlike prayer and trust that God will supply all that He demands.

### **I. The King's People Are Called to Balance (1-6)**

#### A. The King's people must not be judgmental (1-5)

##### 1. The command: "Do not judge!"

a. What this does not mean

b. What this does mean

##### 2. Theological reason to avoid being judgmental

##### 3. Illustration: The speck and the log

##### 4. The way forward: Remove your log, then help others with their speck

#### B. The King's people must be discerning (6)

### **II. The King's People Are Called to Persevere through Prayer (7-11)**

#### A. The King's people persevere in asking, seeking & knocking

#### B. Confidence in prayer: We have good & loving Heavenly Father

### **III. The King's Ethic Summed Up (12)**

#### A. The King fulfills the Law and the Prophets (5:17-20)

#### B. The King's people are to follow their King (7:12; 22:34-40)