

HOW TO DEVELOP FAITH

Quit Playing God

August 09, 2009

FBC Port A

James 4:11-12 NIV *Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbor?*

WE'RE PLAYING GOD WHEN WE JUDGE OTHERS

HOW TO QUIT PLAYING GOD

I. WHY DO WE LIKE TO JUDGE OTHERS?

1. To excuse our own faults

Rom 2:3 NIV *So when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment?*

2. It appeals to our own pride.

Pro 26:22 NIV *The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to a man's inmost parts.*

II. WHY SHOULD I NOT JUDGE OTHERS?

• It is Un-Christian

James 4:11a NIV *Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it.*

• It is Un-Loving

James 4:11b NIV *When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.*

James 2:8 NIV *If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right.*

• It is Un-Justified

James 4:12 NIV *There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbor?*

III. WHEN IS IT WRONG TO JUDGE OTHERS?

1. When I'm Practicing the Same Sin (Rom. 2:1-3)
2. When It Blinds Me to My Own Faults (Matt. 7:3-5)
3. When I Draw Conclusions Based on Outward Appearance (Jn 7:24)
4. When I Condemn Before I Hear the Facts (John 7:51)
5. When I Base it on Outward Religious Observations (Col. 2:16)
6. When It Causes You to Speak Evil About Another Believer (Jas 4:11)
7. When We Question Others Motives and Question Why They Do What They Do (1 Cor. 4:5)

IV. HOW TO BREAK THE HABIT OF JUDGING OTHERS

1. Remember that the same standards will be applied to me.

Mat 7:1-2 NIV *Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.*

2. Remember that we are all accountable to God.

Rom 14:12-13 NIV *So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God. Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way.*

3. Remember the mercy God has given me.

James 2:13b NIV *Mercy triumphs over judgment!*

Parable of Unforgiving Servant -- Matt. 18:21-35

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Your Faith

James

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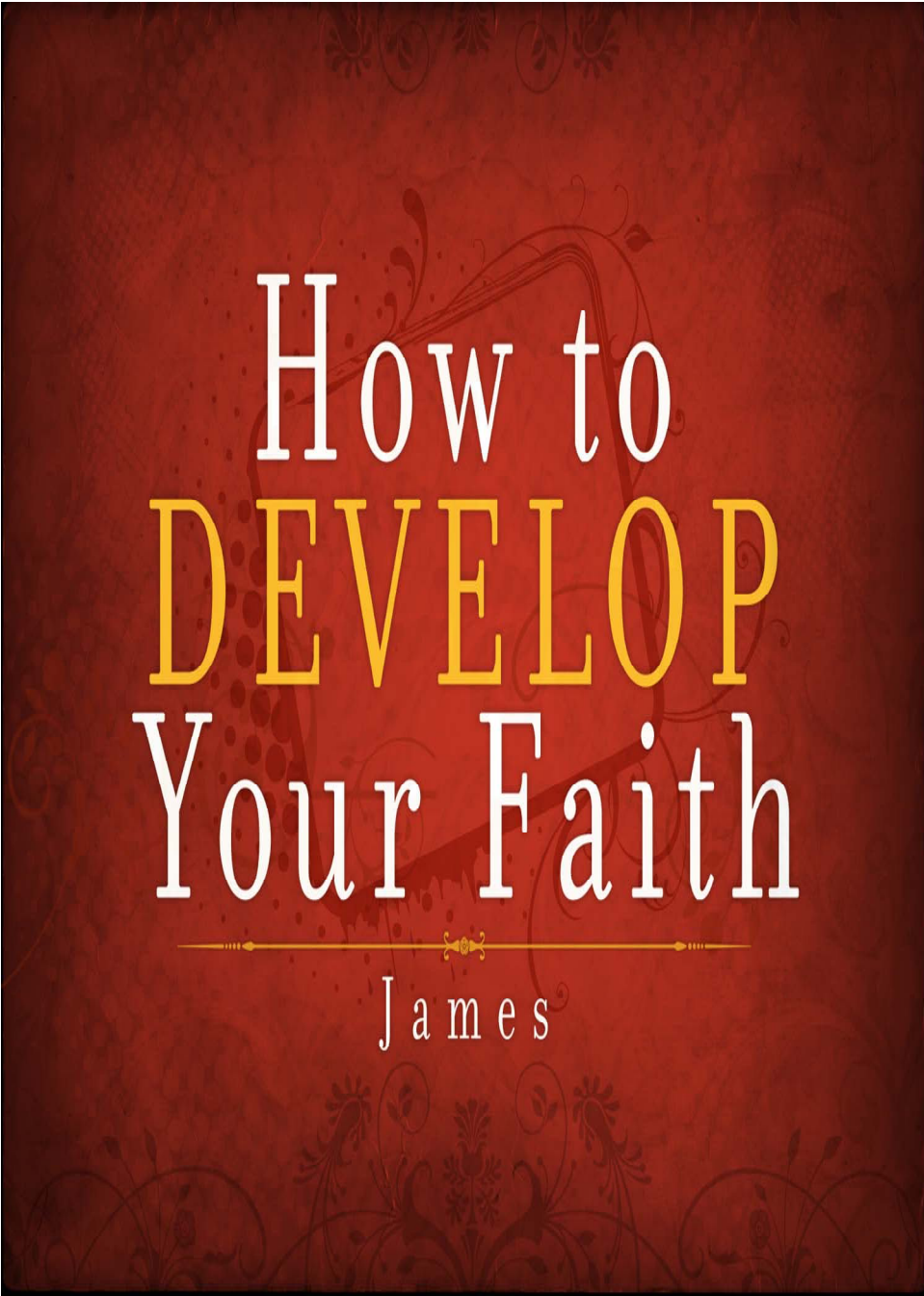
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