



THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

UNDERSTANDING WHAT JESUS WANTS HIS FOLLOWERS TO BE AND TO DO

Week 10



A Christian's Relationship With God
and Others.

I. A summary statement on passing judgment
upon others.

Matthew 7:1 NIV

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged”.

In this passage some seem to think (or hope) that Jesus commanded a universal acceptance of any lifestyle or teaching but that is not what Jesus is doing. This does not prohibit examining the lives of others, it prohibits doing it in the spirit it is often done.

Matthew 26:6-13 NLT

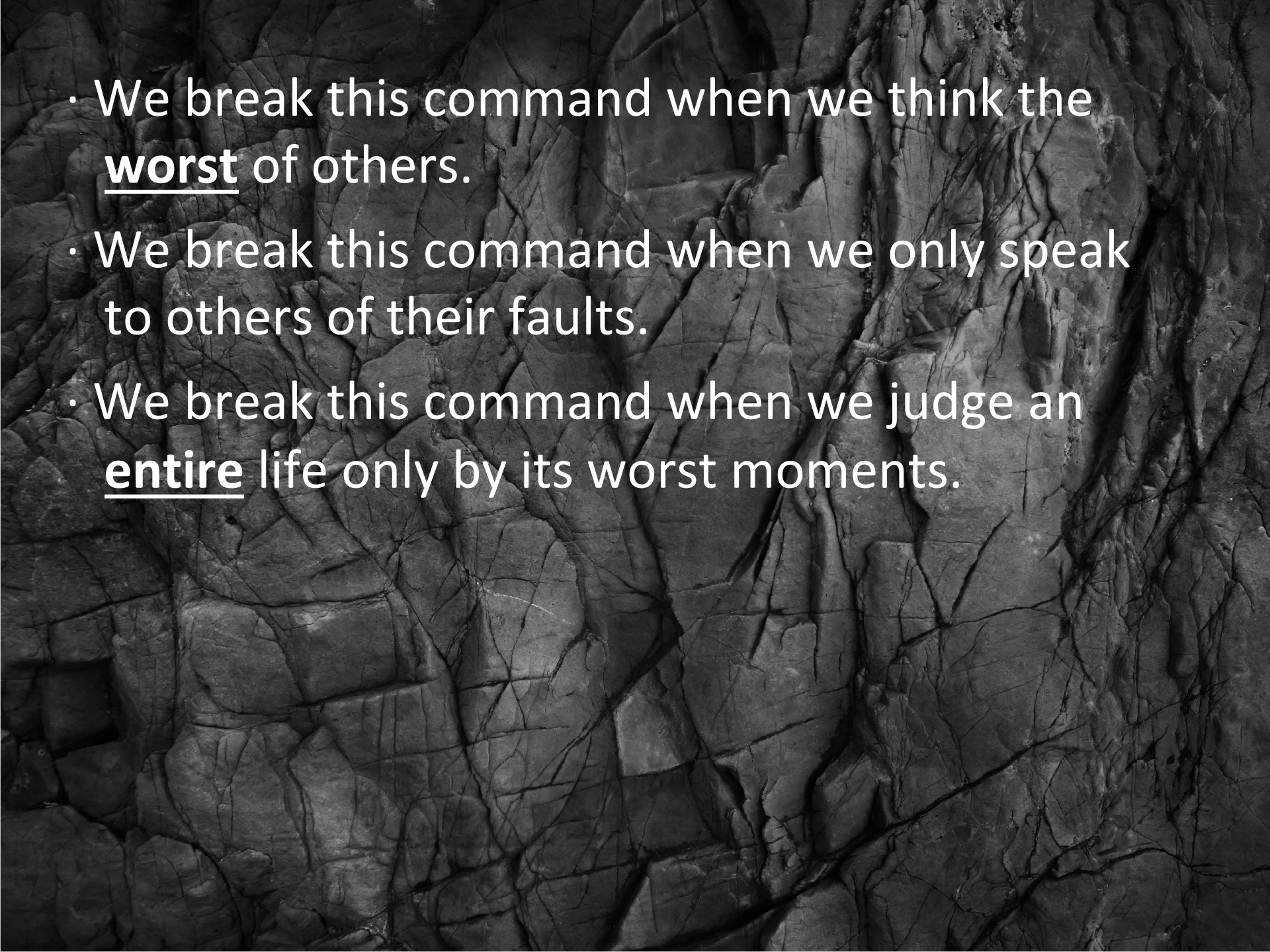
⁶ Meanwhile, Jesus was in Bethany at the home of Simon, a man who had previously had leprosy. ⁷ While he was eating, a woman came in with a beautiful alabaster jar of expensive perfume and poured it over his head.

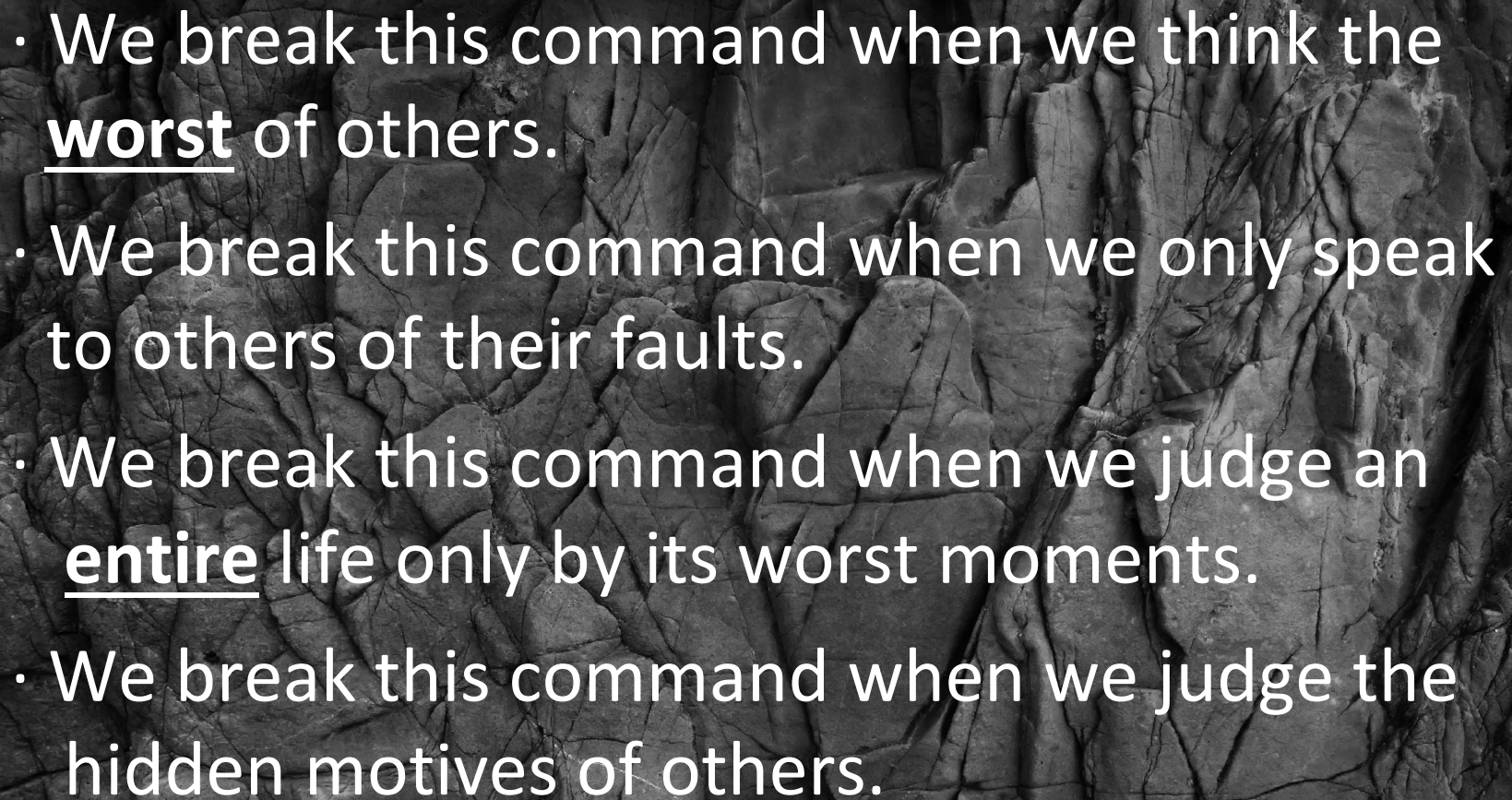
⁸ The disciples were indignant when they saw this. “What a waste!” they said. ⁹ “It could have been sold for a high price and the money given to the poor.”

¹⁰ But Jesus, aware of this, replied, “Why criticize this woman for doing such a good thing to me? ¹¹ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me. ¹² She has poured this perfume on me to prepare my body for burial. ¹³ I tell you the truth, wherever the Good News is preached throughout the world, this woman’s deed will be remembered and discussed.”

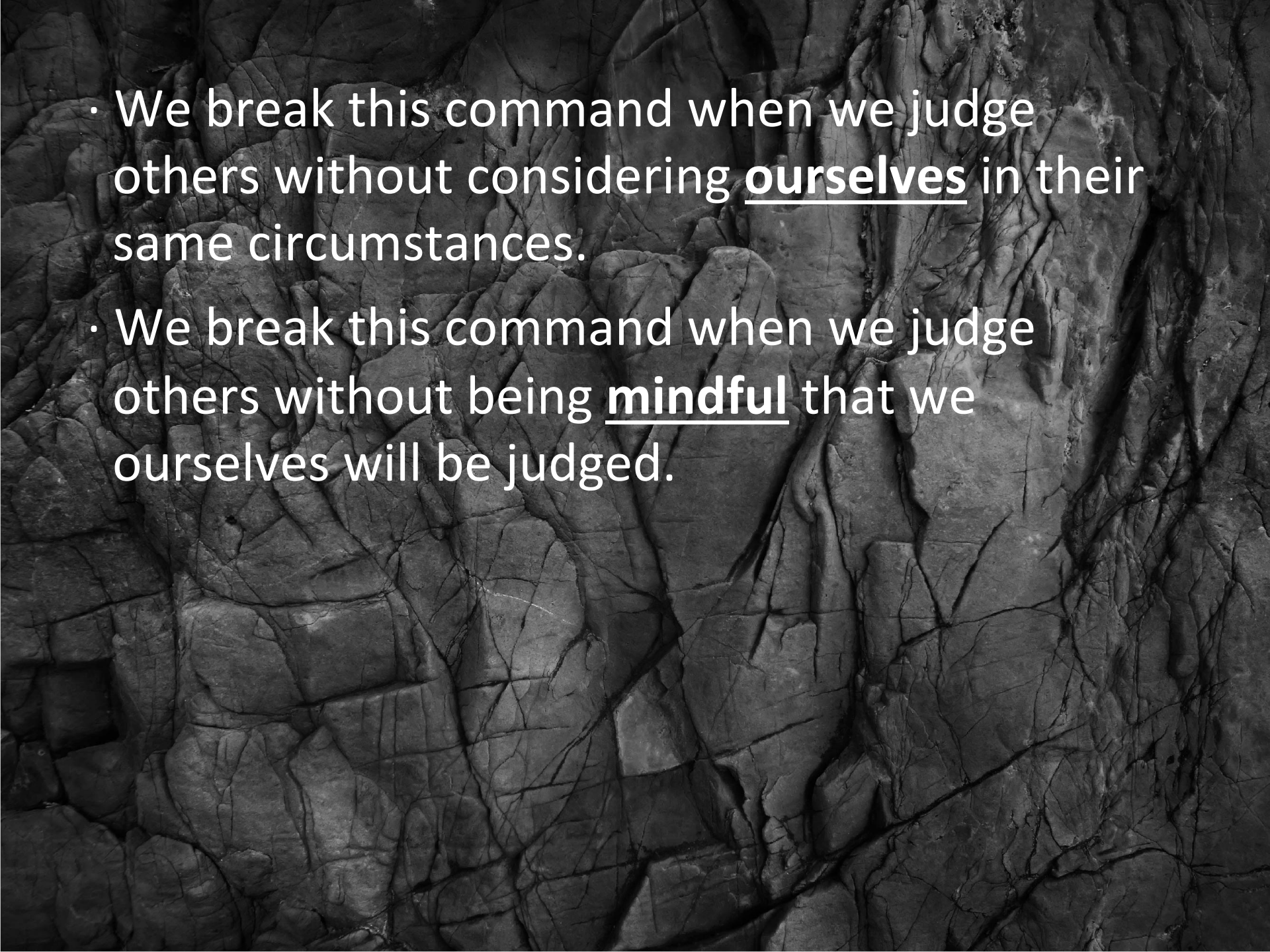
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 - We break this command when we only speak to others of their faults.

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 - We break this command when we judge an entire life only by its worst moments.

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- We break this command when we think the worst of others.
 - We break this command when we only speak to others of their faults.
 - We break this command when we judge an entire life only by its worst moments.
 - We break this command when we judge the hidden motives of others.

- We break this command when we judge others without considering ourselves in their same circumstances.

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- We break this command when we judge others without considering ourselves in their same circumstances.
 - We break this command when we judge others without being mindful that we ourselves will be judged.



Matthew 7:2 NIV

² For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

The measure of justice vs. the measure of mercy.

Matthew 7:2 NIV

² For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Matthew 7:3-5 NIV

³ “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye”.

II. Balancing love with discernment.

Matthew 7:6 NIV

⁶ “Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces”.

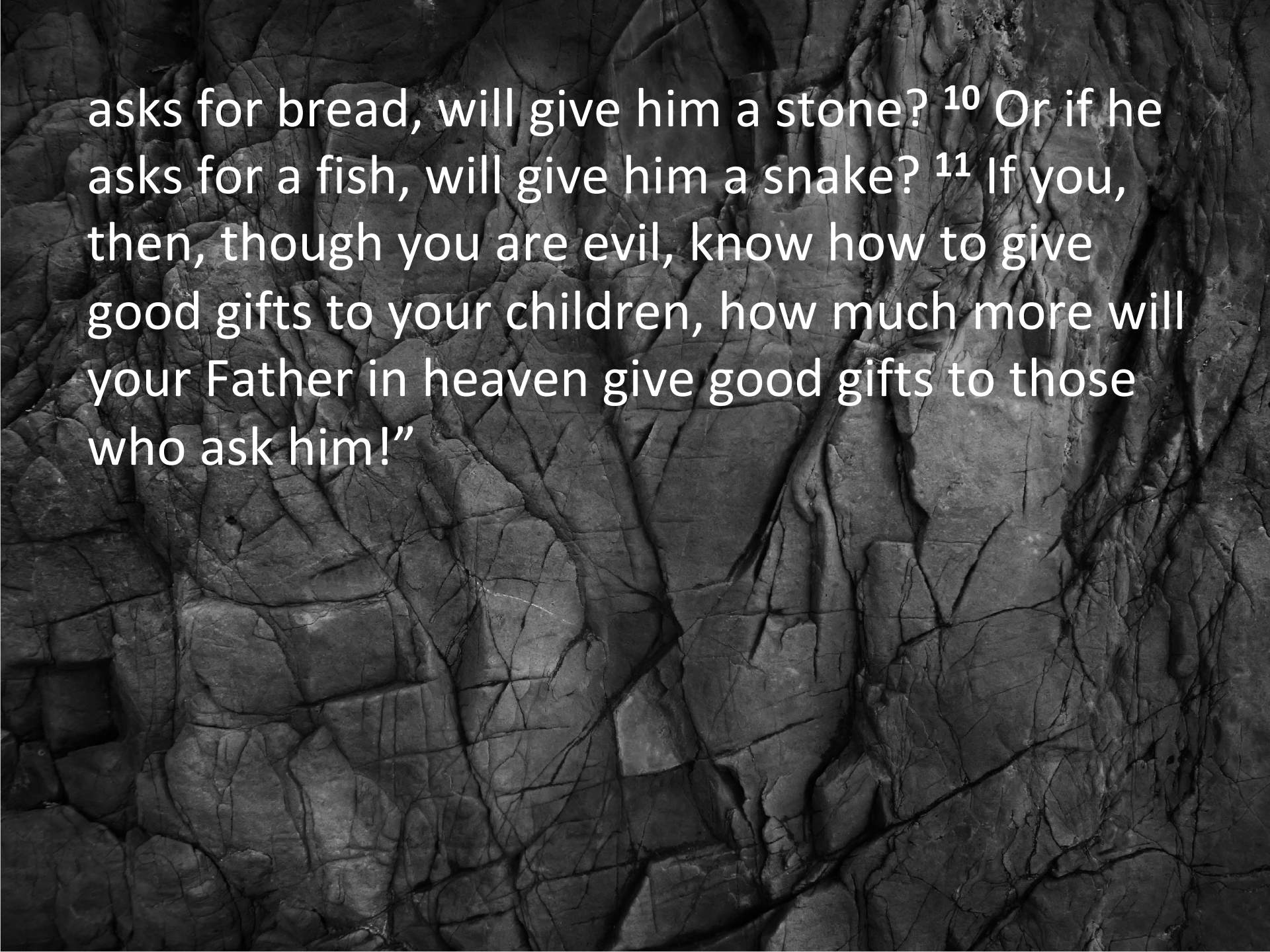
The dogs and pigs here are often understood as those who are hostile to the Kingdom of God and the message that announces it. Our love for others must not blind us to their hardened rejection of the good news of the kingdom.

We might say that Jesus means, “Don’t be judgmental, but don’t throw out all discernment either.”

III. Our understanding of the nature of our Heavenly Father.

Matthew 7:7-11 NIV

⁷ “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. ⁹ “Which of you, if your son



asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹¹ If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!”



Our Father:

- Listens



Our Father:

- Listens

- Answers



Our Father:

- Listens

- Answers

- Opens



Our Father:

- Listens

- Answers

- Opens

- Gives



Our Father:

- Listens

- Answers

- Opens

- Gives

- Is so good.

IV. The Golden Rule.

Matthew 7:12 NIV

¹² So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.



“You should not do to your neighbor
what you would not want him to do to
you.”

