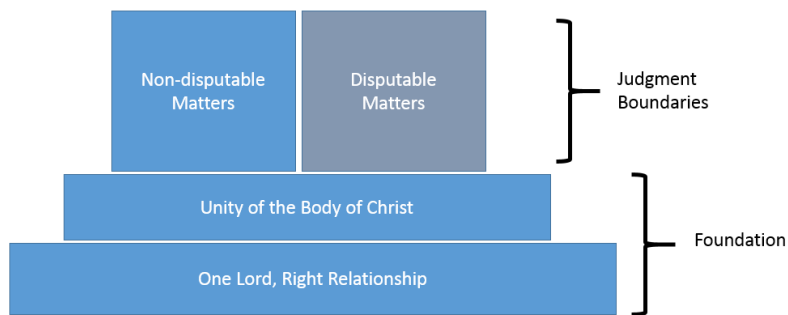


A Biblical Framework for Judging Others with Discernment

Assembled by Glenn Brooke from LeadershipCraft.com

	Principles	Description and Scriptural Support
Foundation Grounding	One Lord, Right Relationship	Everyone in Christ has the same Lord and Master, and is accountable to Him. "The ground is level at the foot of the cross." (James 4:12; Matthew 7:1-6; Luke 6:37-42; Hebrews 9:27-28; Romans 14:4, 8-12; 1 Corinthians 8:5-6; 1 Corinthians 4:2-5) God desires a loving father-child relationship with us, not a master-slave relationship. (Luke 15:25-32; John 14:14-15; Galatians 5:1)
	Unity of the Body of Christ	God creates unity in the Body of Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit. We are stewards of this treasure. (Psalm 133; Ephesians 4:1-6; Colossians 3:11-17; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Galatians 3:28) Both grace and truth are needed to create unity based in the Gospel. (John 1:17) God has created both our commonness and our differences to bring us together. (Ephesians 4:7-16; 1 Peter 4:10-11; 1 Corinthians 12:4-26)
Judgment Boundaries	Non-disputable Matters	We are called to make moral judgments where we have clear Scriptural commands about non-disputable matters. God holds all of us to the same standards in judgment (Matthew 7:1-6) Within the church, these judgments lead to discipline, repentance, and restoration. (Matthew 18:15-17; 1 Corinthians 5:1-5, 11; Galatians 6:1-5) Outside the church we speak the truth in love but must not look down on others. These people, whom God created and loves dearly, are still shackled in sin. (Romans 6:17-23; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13; Jude 1:20-23)
	Disputable Matters	We are called to accept one another in the context of dialogue and mutual edification for disputable matters. (Romans 14-18; Romans 15:7) We make up our minds to be sensitive to how we use our freedom in Christ so that weaker/newer believers will not be led into sin by our example. (Romans 14:13-15:3; 1 Corinthians 8:9-13; Galatians 5:13-15)



Non-Disputable Matters (True for all people, all times and all situations)	Disputable Matters (Personal but not universal convictions)
God is THE Creator and Judge	Holiday traditions – Christmas, Easter, Halloween
Man is sinful and we cannot save ourselves	Mood-altering drugs – Alcohol, Tobacco, Caffeine
Salvation is through grace, not works	Media/Entertainment choices
The Bible is reliable and true	Housing, Transportation choices
	Mode of baptism
	How often to have communion
	Worship order and music

SOURCE: <http://blog.tifwe.org/making-tough-judgement-calls/>