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# BIBLE TALK

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This week we are investigating this question: **Are moral values relative?**

In 1994, George Barna, a longtime, highly respected pollster, conducted a nationwide survey. The survey involved about 1200 adults (ages 18 and older). Several steps were taken to assure that the respondents reflected a *"true geographic distribution of the population"* as well as an *"accurate balance of people according to ethnic character and gender."* (Watkins, *New Absolutes*, 26)  
Listen carefully: 32% agreed and 40% somewhat agreed with the following statement: *"There is no such thing as absolute truth; two people could define truth in totally conflicting ways, but both could still be correct."* This means that 72% of all adults in our country accept the idea that truth is relative – that there are no absolute truths in life. This is especially true when it comes to moral issues. For example:

- Is it always wrong for a woman to have an abortion?
- Is homosexuality always wrong – for all people, in all countries, in all ages?
- Is premarital or extramarital sex always wrong – for all people, in all countries, under all circumstances?
- Is lying always wrong – under all circumstances, for all people?

Three out of four people in the United States would argue that morality is strictly a personal matter – that no action is definitely "wrong" for all people under all circumstances. Furthermore, if a church leader condemns an act as immoral, very often you will hear the immoral person quote a verse of scripture. Do you know what verse they quote. I have discovered that people do not know very many scriptures, but there's one verse everyone knows:

## **Matthew 7:1**

1 "Judge not, that you be not judged.

Everyone knows that scripture – do they not?

What's interesting is that when people quote that passage to condemn Christians for judging, they seem unaware that they are doing the very thing they think the passage condemns – they are judging others for passing judgment. Isn't that strange?

We'll talk more about this subject next week as we continue to study the subject: **Are moral values relative?**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Well ... thanks for listening to our message this week. We invite you to visit our web site [www.WillOfTheLord.com](http://www.WillOfTheLord.com). There you may download the notes and the audio file of the message you just listened to.

Call again next week when we consider a new subject on ***Bible Talk***.