

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE - WEEK OF 4/28/24

MATTHEW 7: 1-14 ESV

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 7: 1-14 ESV

¹ "Judge not, that you be not judged. ² For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. ³ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴ Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

⁶ "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

⁷ "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? ¹¹ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

¹² "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

¹³ "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. ¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

SERMON RECAP - MAIN POINTS

God We Believe

1. We Believe God Who Judges
2. We Believe God Who Gives
3. We Believe God Who Loves

ICE BREAKER QUESTION

GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What has been one "high" and one "low" from your past week?

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- How are you tempted to judge others?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Observation: What does the passage say?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What is taking place in this passage?
- What words or themes stand out to you, and why?
- What are the circumstances of the text?
- Who is involved in the passage and what do you notice about the participants?

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- What does it mean to judge in the context of this passage?
- What is the meaning of verse 6?
- In light of verse 7, what should we be asking for? Seeking for? Knocking for?

Interpretation: What does the passage mean?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What does this passage teach us about God? What does it teach us about Jesus?
- How does this passage relate to the Gospel?
- How does this text relate to other parts of Scripture?
- How would we summarize the truth of this passage in our own words?

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- Why is it necessary to deal with one's own sins first?
- When, if ever, should we criticize or judge someone else?
- How can we become more merciful and non-judgmental?

Application: How can we apply this passage to our lives?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What encouraged you the most from this week's passage? What challenged you the most?
- Does this passage impact your understanding of the Lord? If so, how?
- What is one action you can take this week in obedience to the Lord?

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- What causes us to become more critical or judgmental?
- What fault of your own can you focus on correcting this week?
- How can we enter by the narrow gate?