



**Nov. 12, 2023**

## **Gospel of the Kingdom – Judging**

### **Matthew 7:1-6**

**Summary: Christians are often accused of being judgmental. A favorite retort is to kind of quote Matthew 7:1 by saying, “Don’t Judge me!” While there is a partial truth to this response, it has to be understood in the context of all that Jesus is saying. In this section we get a balanced way to stop condemning through judgment, and to instead restore, heal and discern when to speak truth.**

**Scripture – Matthew 7:1-6; John 3:16**

### **Community Group Questions**

#### **Condemnation (Matthew 7:1-2)**

- “Condemnation is a boomerang.”
- Discuss the difference between discernment and condemnation.

#### **Blind Spots (Matthew 7:3)**

- What is the difference between advice and critique?
- How can you discern if the speck you see in others is actually a log in your own eye?
- At what point do you know that the “log” is out of your own eye?

#### **Overestimate (Matthew 7:4)**

- Why do we think we can do more than we can?
- How can we more realistically protect ourselves from overestimating our abilities?

#### **You Hypocrites (Matthew 7:5)**

- “I’m probably on the highway to hypocrisy if I…” (Fill in the blank)
- What are the challenges/benefits of elevating the degree of our sins and diminishing the degree of others’ sins?

#### **You First (Matthew 7:5)**

- “Step back and assume your vision is impaired.”
- “A good mirror is the people who know you the best.”

#### **Be Discerning (Matthew 7:6)**

- Are we “speck inspectors” or do we really want to help people?
- How do you interpret Matthew 7:6? How do you know when someone is “a dog” or “a pig”?