

DISCUSSION GUIDE

TO JUDGE OR NOT TO JUDGE
The Gospel of John — Week 28

ICEBREAKER: What does God want from us?

OVERVIEW: To judge or, not to judge? Have you ever been told, “Judge not, that ye be not judged”? If so, it was probably stated with a very “judgy” tone. This verse (Matthew 7:1) has become the most popular Bible verse among unbelievers. But do they know the context of these words? Do they know what Jesus meant? Do they know that Jesus also commands us to judge with righteous judgment (Jn 7:24)? In this study we are going deeper with one of the most misunderstood and misapplied concepts in the Bible — judging others.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday’s message?)
2. Has anyone ever told you, “Don’t judge”? Have you ever said this to someone? Explain.
3. What do people usually mean when they say, “You’re not supposed to judge”?
4. Is it wrong to call out sin? Explain.
5. Why must Christians call out sin?
6. When is it appropriate for Christians to call out sin?
7. Read John 7:24. What does it mean to judge with righteous judgment?
8. Read Matthew 7:1-6. How is this passage often misinterpreted? What problem was Jesus addressing? What is the meaning and application of verse six?
9. Where do you need more growth — calling out sin in others, or humbly receiving correction when others call out your sin? Explain.

The Last Word: “In our day it’s worse to judge evil than to do evil.” Os Guinness