



FOREVER CHANGE MY UNDERSTANDING

## Part 1: Don't Judge

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November 8 & 9, 2014

### **Matthew 7:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. <sup>2</sup>For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

<sup>3</sup>“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? <sup>4</sup>How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? <sup>5</sup>You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

The word judge is a neutral term

Jesus is using the word “judge” as a warning against a harsh and condemning spirit.

### **Matthew 7:3-5**

<sup>3</sup>“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? <sup>4</sup>How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? <sup>5</sup>You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

We need to be willing to first have an honest look at the sin in our own lives.

**Two typical responses to other people’s sin:**

Truth Tellers and Avoiders

## **Matthew 7:6**

“Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

## **Matthew 7:7-12**

<sup>7</sup>“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup>For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

<sup>9</sup>“Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? <sup>10</sup>Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? <sup>11</sup>If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! <sup>12</sup>So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

## **Goal of the Sermon**

- 1) That we all would daily look at the sin in our own life and ask God to deal with us.
- 2) That we would begin to lovingly and gently speak hard truths into one another's lives...
- 3) SO THAT we can swim upstream in a world that lives the exact opposite way, accomplishing the mission Jesus has given us to reach the world with the GOOD NEWS.

## **Small Group Questions**

- 1) What are some specific ways you see our culture influencing us to live different from how scripture influences us to live?
- 2) In what ways have you seen healthy judgment or discernment play out in your life?
- 3) Truth Teller or Avoider: which do you identify with more?
- 4) What could going deeper into each other's life in the context of our small group look like?
- 5) How can we pray for you right now and this week?

## **OUR MISSION**

To create an authentic Christian community that effectively reaches out to unchurched people in love, acceptance and forgiveness so that they may experience the joy of salvation and a purposeful life of discipleship.