

Discussion Questions

Week of 2/11/24

Text: Matthew 7:1-6

Icebreaker: On a scale of 1-10, how judgmental is the person sitting next to you? © Why do we often react strongly when we feel judged by others?

- **1.** Read Matthew 7:1-6. What stands out to you from these verses or from the sermon you heard this week? Why?
- **2.** Verse 1 is sometimes quoted in isolation from the rest of the passage. What do we miss if we don't also read verses 2-6?

Application: What comes to your mind when you think of "judging" another? How does your idea of it compare with the type of judging Jesus seems to be addressing?

3. Jesus uses an absurd comparison in verses 3-4 to describe what it's like for a "hypocrite" (see v. 5) to judge. In your own words, what is Jesus saying here?

Application: Why do you think we tend to be good at noticing the "speck" in another's eye but not the "log" in our own? Can you think of an example where this has happened?

4. Verse 5 is the remedy to the problem the hypocrite faces. What difference does this verse make in how we understand the passage?

Application: What do you think it means for a person to "first take the log out" of their own eye? How should this kind of action impact the way one "brother" judges another?

5. Is it ok to judge, then? Look up Galatians 6:1 and 1 Corinthians 5:9-13. What do these verses reinforce about the kind of judgment that pleases God?

Application: Take time to pray that we would show humility and gentleness with each other even when we find a need to point out areas of concern with each other. May we do so with love and plank-free eyes!