



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### ***Sermon Series: The Narrow Path***

### ***Sermon Title and Date: Week 13 – Our Judgements; April 6, 2025***

#### **Summary**

This sermon focuses on the topic of judgment, based on Matthew 7:1-5. Pastor Noel discusses how Christians often struggle with being judgmental despite Jesus's clear teachings against it. He explores two types of judgment - existential (judging another's heart) and eschatological (judging another's final destination) - and emphasizes that while humans naturally tend to judge, we must learn to judge with integrity through self-examination and learn to withhold quick judgments.

#### **Intro Prayer**

*Dear Lord, as we gather to discuss the challenging topic of judgment, help us to examine our own hearts with honesty and humility. Give us the wisdom to understand Your teachings and the courage to apply them in our daily lives. Open our minds and hearts to receive what You want to teach us today. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

#### **Ice Breaker**

What's the most recent TV show or movie you watched where you found yourself judging the characters' decisions?

#### **Key Verses**

- Matthew 7:1-5
- 1 Samuel 16:7
- Matthew 23:23
- Luke 9:51-56

#### **Questions**

1. Why do you think it's so natural for humans to judge others?
2. How has being judged by others affected your life or faith journey?
3. What's the difference between discernment and judgment?
4. How can we practice self-examination before addressing others' faults?
5. In what ways might our judgmental attitudes harm our witness as Christians?
6. How can we use the 'I'm puzzled' approach in our daily interactions?
7. What are some practical ways we can resist creating hierarchies of sin?

8. How can we balance holding others accountable while avoiding being judgmental?

### **Life Application**

This week, practice using the phrase 'I'm puzzled' instead of making quick judgments in your daily interactions. When you feel the urge to judge someone, pause and ask yourself the three self-examination questions: Where am I failing to live up to the standard I expect from others? How do I benefit from God's grace? Who can help me see my blind spots?

### **Key Takeaways**

- We must judge with integrity through self-examination before addressing others' faults
- We are not God and cannot judge others' hearts or final destination
- Learning to withhold judgment is crucial for following Christ
- We must resist creating hierarchies of sin and remember we all need God's grace
- Practical communication tools like saying 'I'm puzzled' can help prevent harmful judgment

### **Ending Prayer**

*Heavenly Father, thank You for showing us the importance of examining our own hearts before judging others. Help us to extend the same grace to others that You have shown to us. Give us wisdom to discern without condemning, and love others as You have loved us. Guide us in being known for our grace rather than our judgment. In Jesus' name, Amen.*