



**Sunday Teaching Discussion Guide:
SERMON ON THE MOUNT 08.12.2018**

Recap:

- When we judge others, when we condemn others, or when we think less of others, that's what people will do to us.
- Two viewpoints about judging had developed. The first says we should judge everyone. The second says we shouldn't judge anyone. Jesus presents a third: address issues in your life and then look at others struggling and help them along.
- Jesus wants us to belong to a community in which we help others along and not leave anyone behind. This means we shouldn't try to raise ourselves over others or disparage others.
- Before we help others along, we need to admit our own flaws and lay them down at the cross. If we want help others along, we have to accept help ourselves.

Discuss:

- If you feel comfortable, share a time in which you felt judged by others unfairly.
- READ Matthew 7:1-6.
- Do you think Jesus has a particular group of people in mind when he says "Do not judge"? Do you think some people are more apt to be judgmental?
- Some have said that in verse 1, the word for "judging" relates also to "condemning." Do you think this changes the meaning of what Jesus is saying?
- What do you think Jesus means when he says "Do not give dogs what is sacred"?
- Why do you think it seems easy to judge others before judging ourselves?
- In his sermon, Ryan said that judging is about manipulation and controlling others. What do you think he meant?
- How do you think judging our neighbors can cause right relationships to be strained?

Pray: Invite members of your group to share prayer requests. Give a short prayer thanking God for your group discussion and asking God to be with the requests that have been shared.

Read at Home: Additional Readings about Judging

- Ezekiel 3:1-21
- John 8:1-11
- 1 John 1:5-10