

# Questions Jesus Asked

## Week One - Why do you Judge?

### BOTTOM LINE

We believe that Jesus challenged our view of what, who, and why we Judge. More often than we may like to admit we miss the focus of who Jesus called us to Judge and who He didn't. **Jesus is full of TRUTH and GRACE. The church is at its best when it embraces both and refuses to let go of either.**

### GOAL OF THE GROUP

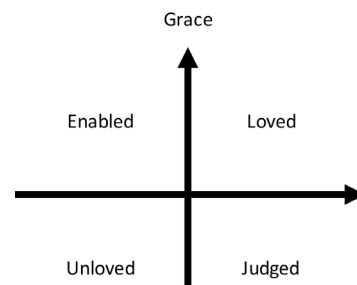
One of things we struggle with as Christians is loving others with both Truth and Grace. We plan on looking at the word "judge" and redefining its meaning for Christ followers. We also want to learn how to be more Christ like by treating everyone with Truth and Grace.

### SCRIPTURE

Matthew 7:1-5; John 1:14, 16-17; 1 Corinthians 5:12

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share: Have you ever "judged a book by its cover" and were pleasantly surprised (or completely wrong) once you got to know this person?
2. Read Matthew 7:1-5.
  - a. Why do Christians have such a bad reputation for judging when Jesus specifically told us not to? In what situations do you struggle with judging others?
  - b. What does the word judge mean to you? Who was Jesus talking to when He said, "Don't Judge?" If we aren't supposed to judge those outside the church, how should we interact with them?
  - c. What does Jesus mean when he says to remove the plank from our own eye? What "plank" is Jesus asking you to remove from your "eye" so you can help your brother?
3. Draw: Take out a piece of paper, a white board, or a napkin and draw the attached Grace/Truth Matrix. This matrix can help us understand how people feel when we communicate with them. Where do you fall on the Grace/Truth Matrix?
4. Read John 4:4-26 with the Grace and Truth Matrix in mind
  - a. In what parts of the passage do you see Jesus show the woman Grace? In what parts does He show her Truth? Would you have shown the woman more Truth or Grace?
  - b. Continuing reading verses 27-42: How does Jesus' use of both Truth and Grace impact the woman's perspective on her situation? How does she react? How do others react?
  - c. How do you relate to the woman at the well? When have you been treated with Grace and Truth? When have you treated other people with Grace and Truth?
5. Pray as a group: Ask God to help you see others with more Truth and Grace.



If you want to know what Jesus meant when he said: "Love one another," look at how He loved.



### TRY THIS

If you imagine everyone is loved by God and needs His grace, how would you interact with people differently? Imagine someone you are naturally frustrated with, maybe you even judge them at work or in your family. How would you respond if you embraced this verse the next time they frustrated you? "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8-9 Try to apply it this week!