

A Choice of Infinite Consequence (Matthew 7:1-14)

CONNECT—Think of a fun-icebreaker question to ask. For example, what is your ideal vacation?

DISCUSS

What most stood out to you from Justin's sermon this past week? What was one of your big takeaways?

What most stands out to you from the passage of Scripture? What confuses you?

Jesus says, in verse 1, "do not judge." Describe a time when you felt judged. Jesus does not prohibit all kinds of judgment, only certain kinds of judgment. What, do you think, is the difference between acceptable and unacceptable judgment? How does Jesus' illustration of a man with a speck in eye and a man with a log in his eye help us?

What does verse 6 mean? [*"So then the 'dogs' and 'pigs' with whom we are forbidden to share the gospel pearl are not just unbelievers. They must rather be those who have had ample opportunity to hear and receive the good news, but have decisively—even defiantly—rejected it." (Stott, 182)*]

What are some of the characteristics of the prayer that Jesus describes in verse 7 through 11? How have you seen God provide for you alongside of prayer? Justin said that the Father can respond to our prayers by saying, "yes," "no," or, "not now." Does this make sense to you? Why or why not? Do you have an example of a prayer that you are glad that God said, "no," or, "not now," to?

How does depending on God free us up to love our neighbors as ourselves? What are some practical ways that you could love your neighbors at your workplace, in your neighborhood, or in our community?

Why do you think that Jesus calls the gate that leads to destruction, "wide"? Why is the gate that leads to life, "narrow"? In what ways does following Christ lead us to experience life?

RELATE—Consider splitting into guys and girls for this section.

What has been your biggest spiritual highlight this week? What has been your biggest spiritual struggle this week? What is one action step that you are going to take this week in light of this discussion?

IMPACT (Invite, Engage, Share)

Have everyone share one person that they would like to invite to church or Life Group this week. Pray for those invitations.