

# MasterClass

LESSONS FROM THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

## MESSAGE RECAP

As Jesus teaches His disciples what it looks like to live in the kingdom of God in His famous Sermon on the Mount, He dives straight to our hearts, and His teaching on judging others is no different. Jesus isn't saying there's never a time to make a judgment call or to be discerning, but He does challenge us to judge rightly. To do that, we must see ourselves and others clearly, and seeing clearly begins in our hearts.

**1** **Read Matthew 7:1-2.** What evidence do you see in these verses that Jesus is talking about the manner in which we judge, not just about not judging in general? What is the standard or measure we should use? What is your normal heart posture when you judge someone, and how does that compare with what you would desire from someone else?

**2** **Read Matthew 7:3-5.** What does verse 5 say about the order in which we should make a judgment call? What kind of work is required of us to examine ourselves for "logs" in our own lives? What is the heart posture we should be left with as a result of that work? Do you do this self-examination work?

**3** **Read 2 Samuel 12:1-9.** How is this story from David's life a picture of how we often deal harshly with the sins of others but mercifully with our own? Read David's response to the conviction he felt from God. Spend some time as a group confessing any sin you've been overlooking in your own life. Use David's words.

**4** **Read Matthew 7:6.** Who is Jesus referring to when He speaks of pigs and people who are unholy? What do pearls represent (see Matthew 13:45-46)? Do you view the message of the kingdom of God this way? What are your "pearls"?

**5** How does this verse fit with the rest of Jesus' words thus far in this chapter? How is it possible to be discerning while also not being a hypocrite? Read Ephesians 6:10-12. What are the devil's strategies in this area? How does knowing the true enemy in a situation help you judge rightly? Spend some time praying for each other and for the people who have come to mind during this study.

## RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

*Encourage group members to read Daily Bible Reading on the church app or have it delivered to their inbox daily. Subscribe at [tpcc.org/dbr](http://tpcc.org/dbr). Use your group chat to check in on thoughts about these throughout the week!*