

“Silencing The Critic Within” Group Guide

Series: The Curriculum

Passage: Matthew 7:1-12

Speaker(s): Ryan Paulson

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ICEBREAKER:

Have you ever judged a book by its cover and been surprised? Which book or person have you been too quick to judge? Share with the group.



Learning His Way

(Every week in these studies, we will ask questions about the Scriptures that try to help us Discover the unique Way of Jesus found in the text.)

1. Read Matthew 7:1-12 in multiple translations including The Message paraphrase. What catches your attention?
2. What style of writing is being used here and why?
3. Verse 1 is one of the most misused verses in the Bible. Why do you think that is?



Forming His Heart

(This is the part of the study where we work on our hearts. “How does my character need to grow and change because of this passage?”)

4. The Israelites considered themselves better and belittled differences. In what ways might that same attitude tend to creep into your spiritual life?
5. There is a difference between speaking to the willing, versus wasting time on the hard-hearted. How do you differentiate between the two?
6. What is the difference between making a judgment and being judgmental? Which are you?



Joining His Mission

(This is the part of the study that we ask, “What would God want us to do because of this passage?”)

7. In what ways are you blind to your sins? What “logs” are in your eyes? How might you go about removing them?