

Kingdom – Judging vs. Condemning

Weekend Discussion Questions

June 6-7, 2015

Community:

1. Would you consider yourself a judgmental person?
2. Think of a time when you were quick to condemn someone for their behavior. What was it about them that really bothered you? Was any of that anger about your own behavior?

Core:

1. **Read Luke 18:9-14.** Who do you relate to the most in this parable: the Pharisee or the Tax Collector? Why?
2. Are you tempted to think, *“At least I’m not like that Pharisee”*? Can you think of other people or groups in society that make you feel the same way?
3. **Read Matthew 7:3-5.** What is the *“plank or log in your own eye”* that gets in the way of loving others as Jesus asks?
4. John 7:24 reads, *“Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment.”* What would you say is the right criteria that allows you to make a *“right judgment”*?
5. Why do you think it’s easier to be self-righteous rather than repentant? What are the costs, and what effort does it take, for us to be repentant?
6. **Read 2 Samuel 12:1-13.** What were some key components in Nathan’s confrontation of David that brought about good for David?
7. Do you have a “Nathan” in your life (someone to hold you accountable)? If not, why? And if you do, what is it about that person that makes you think they are your “Nathan”?

Challenge:

In finding a “Nathan” in your life, Scott gave 3 attributes needed: *Do they love Jesus? Do they see things clearly? Do they have a proven track record of caring about you, not condemning you?* If you don’t have that person in your life, ask God to lead you to them. If you already have a “Nathan”, ask them the following:

1. *“What actions do they see in your life that don’t line up with following Jesus?”*
2. *“What are my blind spots?”*
3. *“What do I need to work on...and will you help me do that?”*

