

Series: Divine Paradox

Sermon: To Judge or Not to Judge

Primary texts: Matthew 7:1-5; John 7:24; 1 Corinthians 4:3-5; 1 Corinthians 5:12

Discussion guide:

- Have you ever judged someone too harshly? If you feel comfortable, share your story.
- Have you ever been the victim of judgment? If you feel comfortable, share your story.
- Have you ever had to confront sin in a Christian brother or sisters life? What was that like?
- Have you ever had to be confronted about sin in your life? If you feel comfortable, share your story.
- What is the sort of judgement that only God can make?
 - What damage is caused when we presume to make such judgements?
 - What is usually our motivation?
- What is the sort of judgement we are called to make? (see Galatians 6:1)
 - What damage is caused when we neglect to exercise it?
 - What must be our motivation?
- Read Matthew 7:1-5.
 - What's the danger of judging others here?
 - Are we still called to "remove the speck" from our brothers' eye?
 - What are we supposed to do first?
 - What does this mean?
- Read John 7:1-24.
 - Give an overview of what's going on and what Jesus' point is.
 - What is Jesus' point in John 7:24?
- Read 1 Corinthians 4:3-5.
 - Why doesn't Paul care about other people's judgement or his own?
 - Is he talking about Christian brothers and sisters confronting sin in his life? or his own self-examination with regard to sin?
 - If not, what sort of judgement does he not care about?
 - Why does Paul says the Lord is the one to judge? (see 1 Samuel 16:7)
- Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-12.
 - Give an overview of what's going on and what Paul's point is.
 - What is his point in v. 5?
 - What is his point in v. 12?