



The Fundamental List - Week 4

In every generation, new and sometimes toxic opinions get woven into streams of Christianity. Which is why it is essential to remembering one primary fact– the starting point and the ending point for understanding what God is like, is Jesus. And this means that when all is said and done, Jesus is the authority by which every person on Earth will be judged. On the one hand, this can be frustrating. After all, we’re a culture who has seen so many problems arise from judgmental people lording their authority over others. Consequently, the concept of “judgment” isn’t exactly popular. On the other hand, the perfect justice with which Jesus judges humanity means that we can forgo our own judgmental tendencies, and trust instead in one who is qualified for the job.

Getting Started

1. What are you most excited about this summer? What are you dreading?

What About You?

2. When was the last time you saw an injustice in the world and thought, “why doesn’t God do something about that?”
3. Where do you think the human instinct towards justice comes from? Why do we care about things that don’t directly affect us?
4. Do you remember the last time you felt *judged*? What happened?



Look It Up

Genesis 4:2–15. John 5:22. 2 Corinthians 5:10.

6. What do you make of the warning God gives Cain? Why do you think he personifies sin in such a vivid way?
7. The text is not totally explicit as to why God didn't regard Cain's offering as acceptable. What do you think was going on, here?
8. How does Cain respond to God's questions after the murder? What does it reveal about his heart?
9. How do you interpret God's punishment of Cain? What is behind his banishment?

Putting It All Together

10. What is it about Jesus that entitles him to judge us all? Do you ever have trouble surrendering to his judgment?
11. What lines of reasoning do you use to "write off" Jesus's moral judgments?
12. Which of the following judgments of Jesus do you have the most trouble accepting, and what gets in the way?
 - Turning the other cheek when you're wronged?
 - Being generous with those who have bad intentions?
 - Going the extra mile for corrupt authority?
 - Loving your enemies?
 - Praying for your persecutors?
 - Putting others first?
 - Living for later?
13. Can you think of any situations in your life right now where you are trying to claim Jesus's rightful role as judge? What would humility require of you in this situation?
14. Are you struggling to believe that justice will be done? How can you seek faith in this area of your life this week?

