



LIFEgroup STUDY GUIDE

What you will need to supplement this guide:

1. A copy of the outline provided for notes on this message (copy from message or downloaded from the COASTAL APP).
2. A Bible or Bible APP to refer to verses.

PURSUING LIFE TOGETHER *SUNDAY MESSAGE REVIEW*

NOTE to the LIFEgroup Leader: This guide is provided as a tool to assist you in facilitating a structured discussion with your group. When used in conjunction with the outline notes and a Bible this tool will ensure that your group will *Engage Authentically*. The questions are merely recommended “talk starters”. It is important for you to let God help you navigate through the conversation as you *pursue life together* as a group.

OPEN IN PRAYER

STARTER QUESTIONS:

Where have you seen God at work in your life since we last met?

What stood out to you from the message this week?

MAIN IDEA:

- REVIEW THE MAIN TOPIC OF THE MESSAGE. Allow time for discussion
- READ THE MAIN SCRIPTURE FROM THE MESSAGE OUTLINE.

How did this verse speak to you in your life?

- REVIEW THE SUB-TOPICS of the MESSAGE.

Have someone read each of the verses that were highlighted in the message, and briefly discuss.

Is there an area that you feel God is speaking to you through this message?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

- SUMMARIZE the main idea of this message.

Would anyone like to share your thoughts about what we discussed today?

How can we pray for you as a group?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

MISCONCEPTIONS

“Christians Aren’t Supposed to Judge”

Top 10 quotes of this famous celebrity:

- “How do you know when a teenager is lying? When their lips are moving...”
- “Beauty fades, but dumb is forever.”
- “On your best day, you are not as smart as I am on my worst day.”
- “Don’t try to teach a pig to sing. It doesn’t work, and it annoys the pig.”
- “If you tell the truth, you don’t have to have a good memory.”
- “That’s a bunch of who shot John...”
- “Um is not an answer.”
- “They don’t keep me here cuz I’m gorgeous, they keep me here cuz I’m smart.”
- “Either you’re playing dumb, or it’s not an act.”
- “Kerfuffle.”

“Christians are not supposed to judge.”

“Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce, you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.”
Matthew 7:1-5 (ESV)

“**Krinō**”– to distinguish (between two things), to determine (mentally or judicially), to conclude, or to condemn (to express complete disapproval or to pronounce a death sentence).

Misconception #1: Telling someone that their behavior or lifestyle is wrong or sinful is being judgmental.

*“If your brother **sins against you**, go and tell him **his fault**, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.”*
Matthew 18:15 (ESV)

*“For what have I to do with judging outsiders? **Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge?** God judges those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.”*
1 Corinthians 5:12-13 (ESV)

Correctly telling a Christian that they are living in sin isn’t being judgmental, that’s called accountability!

Misconception #2: “Telling someone that their worldview or their deeply held religious beliefs are wrong is judgmental.”

*“You shall have **no other gods** before me.”*
Exodus 20:3 (ESV)

*“Jesus said to him, “I am **THE** way, and **THE** truth, and **THE** life. No one comes to the Father except through **me**.”*
John 14:6 (ESV)

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12 (ESV)

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.” 1 John 4:1 (ESV)

“Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.” Matthew 7:3-5 (ESV)

If you judge, you’ll be judged. If you are harsh and condemning, people will be the same to you! It’s hypocritical to call out others in their sin and ignore your own sin. Instead, examine yourself first and deal with your own sin before worrying about the sins of others.”

“Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.” John 7:24 (ESV)

3 Ways To Avoid Being Judgmental

1. Avoid a Critical Spirit

A Critical Spirit:

- causes us to judge before we know all the facts.
- causes us to always look for something to criticize.
- causes us to feel good when we criticize others.

2. Avoid judging hypocritically

*“... first take **the log** out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take **the speck** out of your brother’s eye.”* Matthew 7:5 (ESV)

3. Avoid judging eternally

“The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.” 2 Peter 3:9 (ESV)

The 3 Gates of Right Judging

1. The Truth Gate (do I know enough facts to determine that my judgment is true?)
2. The Love Gate (is what I want to say loving?)
3. The Spirit Gate (am I being led by the Spirit or led by my own desires?)

The Bad News

“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23 (ESV)

- Every last one of us is a sinner

“For the wages of sin is death...”

Roman 6:23 (ESV)

- Every last one of us has earned / deserves death as a result of our sin

The Good News

“Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures...” 1 Corinthians 15:3 (ESV)

- Jesus Christ died for our sins! He paid a debt He didn't owe because we owed a debt we couldn't pay

“...the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ” Romans 6:23 (ESV)

- And those who accept and believe that Christ died for their sins can receive eternal life

What must we do?

“...repent and believe in the gospel!”

Mark 1:15 (ESV)

- Repent (change our mind about God, sin, and salvation) and believe in Jesus!

The A, B, C's of Salvation

- Admit that you are a sinner and repent.
- Believe that Jesus died for your sin.
- Confess that Jesus is your savior and Lord