



LEADER PAGE | SERIES | Best Sermon Ever | WEEK 8 of 11 | Sermon date: July 18, 2021

Discipleship Phrase: His heart, my hands.

Big Idea for Series: Jesus' heart for the kingdom is on full display.

Abiding *(grow as a disciple yourself)*

If we're honest, we all judge. Sometimes we find ourselves doing so without even thinking about it. Spend some time in prayer this week asking the Lord to call out in you the things, people, actions, or even non-actions you find "offensive" and are quick to judge. Ask Him to convict your heart, allowing you to see the world through His lens more frequently. Be aware as you go through this week and when you find yourself in moments where that judgement mentality is at the forefront, stop, and pray. Ask God for new ways to extend love and grace in situations where you might otherwise walk away, say something unkind and/or cause potential harm to another.

Leading *(facilitate your group effectively)*

As you lead this week, we are challenged to search our hearts on what standards we hold others to based on our own personal convictions. Help your members feel safe discussing what personal convictions they feel strongly about. As you help guide discussion deeper, ask them "why is it difficult to keep from judging others?" Why is it so important to love like Jesus and give lots of grace? If we are to be Jesus in the world we must connect with and help others that are not like us. Investigate with your group what "meeting people where they are" means to them. When applying this message, ask your members what steps they can take to give grace more liberally.

Shepherding *(know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep)*

The Bible speaks to being able to have good discernment. In order to do that, one must use be able to assess and make sound judgments. That said, judging in and of itself is not prohibited but rather encouraged. Condemning on the other hand is perhaps the real issue to avoid all together. In the end, God is the only one who can truly condemn. At times, disagreeable people can seem "judgmental". However, these people can offer unique perspectives that many might not have considered. If you have someone like this in your group, hear them out and listen well before, judging them.

Church Announcements *(be in the know & share with your group)*

Save the date!! Life Group Leader Refocus training! August 29, 2021—more details to come!

REMEMBER: "Every group deserves a great leader.



LifeGroups

at Southeast

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Welcome/Introductions (*creating a relational environment starts here; be friendly & acknowledge everyone*)

Open in Prayer (*kickoff every group gathering with honoring the Lord*)

Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows (*choose one that is best for your group this week*)

Weekly Vision Checklist (*See Flipbook re: announcements, the “why”, goal, outreach, guidelines, & branching*)

Ask a Hook Question (*a thought-provoking question to get the group heading in the right direction*)

Have you ever watched, “The People’s Court,” on TV? Did you find yourself acting more like the Judge, the defendant, or the plaintiff?

Recap the Message (*ask a couple people to share what stood out to them in this week’s message*)

Scriptures References (*Read scriptures **directly from the Bible**—it carries its own authority*)

Matthew 7:1-6 (ESV), Revelation 20:11-13 (ESV), Matthew 13:45-46 (ESV)

Implications (*takeaways from the message*)

1. The Law was given to us so that we can know who God is and what he is inviting us to become, not so that we can hold others accountable to it.
2. Meeting people where they are is more important than telling them where they are wrong.
3. It takes maturity to have a strong conviction and love people who don’t share that conviction.
4. God sends his Holy Spirit into the world to convict the world of sin. He sends his children into the world to love people well. (See John 13:34–35)

Discussion Questions (*going beyond the surface*)

1. Read Matthew 7:1-6. Why do you think Jesus chooses the speck and the log in this passage?
2. What are some of your personal convictions that you hold strongly to?
3. How are those personal convictions effecting how you love others?
4. What are some steps you can take to move from a heart of judgement to a heart that extends liberal grace?

Prayer Requests (*record, share, and follow up throughout the week. Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.*)

Closing Prayer (*ask openly for a volunteer, encourage your people to step outside of their comfort zone regularly*)

