

# “I Don’t Want to Be Judged”

*Hope Lutheran Church – December 15 & 16*

## **Discussion Starter:**

Think of times when you were critical of someone else. What were you critical of? Have you ever noticed any of these traits in yourself?

### **1. Read Luke 6:37,**

- Jesus says, “Judge not, and you will not be judged;” Is Jesus literally saying that we will not be judged? No, not at all! That would be a contradiction of Scripture.
- Neither is Jesus saying that we are to rule out the legitimate use of discernment or church discipline.
- What is Jesus saying about judging others?

### **2. Read John 12:47**

- Jesus said He did not come into the world to judge it. What does He say was the purpose for His first coming?

### **3. Read Matthew 6:12, Matthew 18:21-35**

- As Christians we are not only to avoid being judgmental or critical of others, but rather to go a step further and to forgive.
- What does Jesus teach us about forgiving others?

### **4. Read Matthew 7:1-5**

- The truth is that Jesus is coming again to judge the world. You will be judged based on the measures you use.
- Do you judge others and if so, in what ways?
- What is your measure for forgiving others?

## **Application:**

Please take a moment to consider how you have been treating others. Is it more like Jesus’ first coming – the merciful, forgiving Savior or like Jesus’ second coming – the judge? As true God Jesus has the righteous authority to judge the world He created. On the other hand, we don’t! Pray for God to open your eyes to the truth and give you wisdom and understanding to deal with it.

May the Lord Jesus richly bless you in your journey. Amen.