



DISCIPLE GROUP CURRICULUM GUIDE

Matthew Season 2: Mountain to Mountain
Episode 5: Judge Not
March 5 & 8, 2026
Pastor Ryan Britt

LEADER NOTES – *Leading Well in 7 Minutes or Less: New Episode - S4E2: How you can change your disciple group from a support circle to missional multipliers.* Listen to ALL episodes for free on [Spotify](#) or [Apple](#).

2026 - Spring trimester: 1/5–5/11 **Summer trimester:** 6/1–7/27 **Fall trimester:** 8/17–12/7

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Hour of Prayer, Wednesdays, February 25–April 1, 6–8am and 12–1pm: To create space for you to draw near to the Lord our Arlington, Baymeadows, Fleming Island, Jesup, Mandarin, North Jax, Orange Park, Palatka, San Pablo, St. Augustine, St. Johns and Online campuses will be open for you to pray. (Jesup and Online open from 12–1pm only.)

40 Days of Fasting, Wednesdays, February 25–April 1: As a church, we will fast from food on Wednesdays from sunup to sundown. [Click here for resources on how to fast and pray.](#)

Get Baptized: We will be doing baptisms at the end of every Easter Service April 2, 4 and 5. We are offering baptism classes after every service from March 5–29.

Serve with your Disciple Group: [Click this link](#) and sign up to receive emails when one of our Outreach Partners has a need for disciple groups to serve together. It's a great way to live on mission and grow in community.

THIS WEEK'S READING PLAN: Download our app for [Apple](#) or [Android](#). Click the "Daily" icon at the bottom of the app for our daily Bible reading plan.

Share Wins, Praises and Prayers: Where did you see God move this week?

Action Step Review: Last week's action step: "1) Be super generous in tithes, offerings and gifts. Pray that God will show you who to give \$20-\$100 to before Easter – and don't tell anyone. 2) Join us for an hour of prayer every Wednesday and fast from sunup until sundown." How did God answer your prayers? What did you learn about God? About yourself?

The Point: The more judgmental you are the less joy you will have in this life.

Sermon Text: Psalm 145:18; Jeremiah 29:13; Matthew 7:1-14; 28:20; Acts 17:27; Romans 14:10-12; 1 Corinthians 3:13; 4:5; 2 Corinthians 5:10; James 4:8

Discussion Questions

Leaders: Please use the questions in the curriculum to facilitate discussion of the sermon and the Scriptures. **But there's no need to answer every question.** The goal is to get your group members talking more than you and to get them going deeper.

- **Read Matthew 7:1-14. What stood out to you this week in the sermon, in the Scriptures and what God revealed to you about Himself?**
- ***Discuss the differences in the two opposing kingdoms Jesus describes in the Sermon on the Mount.** (*One path has lots of gates for entry, the other path has one gate. The paths have signs that tell you which way you are going – life or death, grace or works, light or dark, holy or unholy.*)
- **Discover:** Share a time you felt judged by someone, or when someone extended grace to you when you expected judgment, and how that impacted you.
Deepen: Where are you tempted to get judgmenty?
- **What's the difference between being judgmental and being discerning while sharing the truth of the Bible and Jesus?** (*Being judgmental is subjective; discernment is objective. A judgmental attitude is looking down your nose at someone so you can feel superior – even as you ignore your own sins. Discerning truth and sharing it in love is an effort to help someone. Jesus never taught that being loving means refusing to say something is right or wrong, good or evil, according to God as revealed in the Scriptures. The command to judge not is not a requirement to be blind, but rather a plea to be gracious.*)
- **When has God shown you grace instead of passing judgement?**
- **Read Matthew 7:3-5 and Matthew 6:22. Jesus is saying you have a thinking problem, not a seeing problem. Discuss that idea.** (*Jesus is drawing a line between being judgmental and being discerning. Your opinion can't change hearts. You can't argue people into salvation or better behavior, but God's grace can!*)
- **Read Matthew 7:7-11. Who are you asking - Jesus, God, your Father, the Holy Spirit?** (*Remember Pastor Britt's example of: If you know who is at home, how would you knock?*)
- **Discover:** Share a time you asked and kept asking until you heard from God or a time Jesus said no to your prayer, and you eventually understood what a blessing the no from a loving father was.
Deepen: What stops you from continuing to ask?
- **How is prayer about power and trust?** (*Part of prayer is accepting that we aren't in control. Prayer is about trust. To receive the "good things" from God we have to be willing to let go of our delusion of control and need God.*)
- **Discover:** What evidence in your life would lead people to believe you live as though God is near?
Deepen: What practical things can you do this week to live as though God is near and to draw nearer to God? (*Jesus is after hearts, not habits. Read Jeremiah 29:13. To know Christ is to love Christ and to love Christ is trust Him. Read John 14:21.*)
- **Discover:** Read Matthew 7:13-14. Discuss the differences between the broad and narrow gates. (*The narrow gate leads to a relationship with Jesus. It's a road of grace, forgiveness and being conformed to the image of Christ. See John 10:9, 14:6 and 1 Timothy 2:5. The broad road is rebellion and/or religion. It's a road of works, self-centeredness, anger, lust and hating your enemies.*)
Deepen: Share a time you needed to choose between these paths. What guided your decision?

Action Step: Pray God will show you an area in your life where you can show more grace this week, and then do it.

Your Discipleship Journey

- **RightNow Media:** Find an *unending supply of resources* by signing up for a FREE RightNow Media account. Go to coe22.com/rightnowmedia or text “RightNow” to 441122.

(Note: You'll need to login or create an account to view RightNow Media content.)



Go to coe22.com/growthtrack, scroll down to “What’s Growth Track?” and click the words, “Discipleship Triangle” to download or print a discipleship journey tool with questions for you to ask yourself and others. Please share the link and directions with others in your group.