



PASTOR BOB
April 28th, 2019



“FORGIVER *or* CONDEMNER?”
Discerning without Condemning
MARK 2:1-12

- ***Peter’s Wrong Question*** MATTHEW 18:21; EPHESIANS 4:32

1. _____ **FREELY** _____ vs. 5
(...without a Confession)

- **The Jewish Culture:** “Sickness meant _____”
- **Jesus’ Pattern of Forgiveness....**
- **Forgiveness:** “To _____ the _____.”

2. _____ **FREELY** _____ vs.s. 6, 7
(...without Grace)

- **Condemners** _____ **Themselves** ROMANS 2:4
- **Condemners are** _____ **to the Blessing** JOHN 12:9-11

3. _____ **FREELY** _____ vs.s. 3, 4, 10, 12
(...without Cost)

4. _____ **FREELY** _____ vs. 12;
(...without Condemning)

- MATTHEW 7:15-20;

There is a difference between forgiving and _____ JOHN 2:23, 24

- ***Are you a Forgiver or Condemner?***
COLOSSIANS 3:13; MATTHEW 6:14, 15

***This is not just an _____ to do,
but a _____ to become!*** ROMANS 8:29

LIFE GROUP STUDY NOTES
“FORGIVER *or* CONDEMNER?”
Discerning without Condemning

GETTING STARTED “*In your opinion...*”

1. Sunday’s sermon focused on the differences between a *merciful forgiver* and *criticizing condemner*? Of anything you remember, was anything helpful, unsettling, or questionable?
2. What is so necessary for Jesus to be a merciful forgiver? What makes it so easy for humans to be critical condemners?
3. Why is it important to discern between good and evil? How can one be a wise discerner without being a condemner?
4. Discerning and criticizing both require “*judging others*”. Is there a difference between judging to discern and judging to condemn?

GOING DEEPER “*According to the Bible...*”

Answer the following questions from what the Bible says in the suggested reading

Read Matthew 18:21-35.

- **Do you think Peter thought he was being generous in suggesting he forgive someone seven times? Explain.**
- **Why was Peter’s question the wrong question?**
- **What were the consequences of the condemner, the one who did not forgive?**
- **Why do you think forgiveness is so important to God?**

Read Matthew 18:15-17, the verses preceding the story of the *Unmerciful Servant*.

- **What is the goal of confronting someone who has sinned?**
- **What consequences were measured out to one who refused to listen about their wrong?**
- **How is measuring out this consequence consistent with the idea that God does not want us to be a condemner?**
- **Who is being protected with these kind of consequences?**

Read Romans 2:1-4. What is the whole purpose of God’s kindness and forgiveness to man? How does patience play a role in this?

LIVING OUT

- **Based on your recent conversations, would those closest to you say you are more of a merciful forgiver or critical condemner?**