



Grow Group Leader Notes

Week 11 | November 9-12

Simple, But Not Easy
Matthew 7:1-12

THE BIG IDEA

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

MEMORY VERSE

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

- Matthew 7:12

NEXT WEEK'S TEXT

Matthew 7:13-27

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORNERSTONE FAMILY REUNION SUNDAY

Sunday, November 23 we will have an adjusted schedule as we celebrate Christ with Cornerstone Baptist Church:

- 9:30am: ALL Grow Groups (including off-campus Grow Groups) are encouraged to participate in a special Learning to Listen workshop in the Lobby

- 11am: Worship with CBC and hear a sermon from Pastor Chris Simmons in the Worship Center

- 12:15pm: Join us for Babe's Chicken lunch all together in the Lobby*

*Please use the Cornerstone Family Reunion Sunday events page (or the QR code to the right) to register to join us for lunch as we are kindly requesting VRBC members donate \$8 per meal.

If you would like to serve with us on Cornerstone Family Reunion Sunday, you can follow the link included on the events page.



CHRISTMAS STORE

Whether gift wrapping is your specialty, hospitality is a favorite pastime, you like folding clothes, or almost anything in between, we have just the spot for you to serve with us at this year's Christmas Store!

Sign up to serve with us at: vrbc.net/christmasstore

WOMEN'S WORSHIP NIGHT

You're invited to join us for our all-women's night of worship this Monday, November 10 at 7pm in the Student Auditorium.

DISCUSS

 **Read Matthew 7:1-12**

Listening to Jesus

As you reflect on our worship gathering this week, what is the primary message of truth you sensed God speaking to you?

The Golden Rule

Pastor John challenged us to do 2 things in every interaction we have this week:

1. Ask yourself: How would I want to be treated in this situation if I were in their shoes?
 2. Ask God: Lord, will you help me?
- Even though many of us learn from a young age that we are to treat others as we want to be treated, why is it so difficult to remember?
 - What is something you can do to help you remember John's challenge to try to apply the Golden Rule to all your interactions this week?

Love Instead of Judge

- What do we need to believe about God, ourselves, and others to be able to love instead of judge?
- When was a time God took your natural reaction to judge and transformed it into love?
- When was a time someone demonstrated love to you by using discernment to restore you rather than judgment?

Neither Do I *(scripture at right in blue)*

Read John 8:2-11

- Who all was being judged in this story?
- How does Jesus flip the script?
- What role does humility play in this story?
- What do we learn about Jesus from this story?
- How can you follow Jesus' example from this story in your own life?

² At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. ³ The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group ⁴ and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" ⁶ They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷ When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸ Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

⁹ At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰ Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

¹¹ "No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

John 8:2-11

PRAY

After further processing this week's sermon, let's extend the personal time of prayer we experienced at the close of this week's worship service. As we continue asking the Holy Spirit to search us and show us who we tend to judge instead of love, let's walk through the process in prayer of looking in the mirror, leading with love, and leaning on God as we ask God to help us grow in love for one another rather than judgment.

After 5 minutes of personal prayer time, the Grow Group leader can offer a closing word of prayer.

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