**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr May 21, 2023**

**A Word to In*speck*tors: Stop Judging Others**

Matthew 7:1-6

**Key Truth:** When we are sensitive and broken over the sin in our lives, then we can help others overcome their own.

**Attention All In*speck*tors!!**

1. Don’t judge based on assumptions. Proverbs 18:2

2. Don’t judge based on appearances. 1 Samuel 16:6-7

3. Don’t judge based on preferences. Romans 14:1-4

**How Do We Stop Unfairly Judging Others:**

1. Spend more time looking inwardly at your own heart and

 actions.

2. Choose to be a person of grace, mercy, and compassion.

3. Don’t believe that all your assumptions are true.

 A. You may not have all the facts.

 B. You may not know the person’s motives.

4. Understand your preference isn’t ordained by God.

5. Understand God is the ultimate and righteous judge.

 Romans 14:10-12

**How Should We Judge:**

1. Our motive for judging should be constructive and

 restorative. Galatians 6:1-2

2. We are to judge by the standard of God’s Word; with love,

 grace, and truth. John 7:24

3. We must use discernment; understanding everybody won’t

 welcome our correction. Matthew 7:6

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Thank Jesus for His grace, mercy and love He has shown you. Live as a person of grace, mercy, and forgiveness. Be the change you want to see in others!

**Connection Group Homework:**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Would you consider yourself a judgmental or critical person? Why or why not? Would others say you are a critical person?

In Matthew 7:3-5, Jesus chose the eye for His illustration on purpose. Why do you think he chose the eye?

Read 2 Samuel 12:1-10: As King David listened to Nathan’s story regarding the rich and poor man, David became angry and rendered a judgment. Was David being a hypocrite in his judgment? Why or why not?

Read James 4:11-12: What kind of judgment is James’s condemning? What kind of judgment are believers called to use (see John 7:24)?

Why do you think Jesus shifted the focus from judging others’ sin to examining our own?

Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-5: Was Apostle Paul wrong for judging the man who had committed this sin? Why or why not?

Read 1 Corinthians 5:9-12: Who does the bible say Christians are to judge and who are we to leave judgement of the world too? What is our responsibility to the world in which we live?

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12: How are we demonstrate our witness to the world in which we live?