Here Comes the Judge!

The Passage

Mark 11:12-26 (See also Matthew 21:12-13/ Luke 19:45-48/ John 2:13-16)

Here Comes the Judge!

Eight Truths About How We'll Be Judged

- 1. Jesus will be our JUDGE. John 5:21-22/ Acts 10:42
- 2. We will be spared from WRATH. Romans 5:9/ Romans 8:1/ 1 Thessalonians 5:9
- 3. Calling myself a CHRISTIAN doesn't make me a CHRISTIAN. Matthew 7:21-23/ 1 John 2:3-6
- 4. Judgement always starts with God's FAMILY, not his ENEMIES. 1 Peter 4:17/ Revelation 2-3/ Romans 5:8-10
- 5. There will be both LOSS and REWARD. 1 Corinthians 3:9-13/ Luke 19:11-27/ 2 Corinthians 5:10, Romans 14:10 & John 19:13-16
- 6. We're **DISCIPLINED** now so that we won't be **JUDGED** later. Hebrews 12:5-11
- 7. We'll be judged by our ACTIONS, not our THEOLOGY. James 2:19-20 & Romans 2:13/ 2 Corinthians 5:10 & Matthew 16:27 See also Matthew 7:2/ James 3:1/ Matthew 12:36-37
- 8. Jesus is on **OUR SIDE**. 1 John 2:1-2

For the week of September 15, 2019

Welcome to the Fall Quarter of Life Groups!

This week we kick off our Fall Life Group Quarter. Your first meeting will include a potluck dinner, time to get acquainted, as well as time to discuss your Life Group Covenant. The study questions have been shortened this week to allow ample time to accomplish all of this.

To prepare for your first meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great meeting as you come together to connect, encourage one another to grow and see how God might work!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- As you look back on the summer months, what were one or two of your highlights (i.e. going to a concert, swimming, family gathering, vacation, barbeque, etc.)?
- We all have different preferences. How would you answer the following:

What's the best way to start the day? What's the best day of the week? What's worth spending more on to get the best?

- Would you rather ...
 - ... for your birthday, receive cash or gifts?
 - ... go to a movie alone or to dinner alone?
 - ... hear the good news or the bad news first?
 - ... be given a lifetime supply of delicious food or books?
 - ... watch the big game at home or live at the stadium?

QUICK REVIEW: Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

Talking about God's judgement isn't typically an easy conversation. Yet, this weekend we were given some insight in how God's judgement actually helps us know what it means to follow him. The ultimate good news is that as a follower of Jesus, we are saved by grace. Take a moment and read through Ephesians 2:1-10 and jot down all it says about God's grace, judgement, and how the Spirit works in the life of a Jesus follower.

Ephesians 2:1-10 New International Version (NIV) - *As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,* ² *in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.* ³ *All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.* ⁴ *But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,* ⁵ *made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.* ⁶ *And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,* ⁷ *in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.* ⁸ *For it is by grace you have been saved.* ¹⁰ *For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

How might what you wrote above reflect and/or add to the message we heard this weekend?

Looking back at the message this weekend and the Ephesians passage, what is one of the most important things to remember?

LOOKING AHEAD

In preparation for going over the Covenant in your Life Group, take a moment to jot down some of the reasons you joined a group this fall. What are you looking forward to the most?

THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God's Word. (**Hebrews 10:24-25** - And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching). Here's how it will happen:

SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives.

At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.

SUPPORT

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (**John 15:9-13** - "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.). This care can take many forms, such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (**Ephesians 4:11-16** - *So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,* ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.). Throughout the quarter, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve and make a difference in God's Kingdom



REAL MAN WEEKEND - "The Palomar Experience"- Oct. 25-27

Lookin' for some crazy guy stuff to do? Want to kick back or get refocused on God? Join us for another epic men's weekend that will get you recharged and refreshed as our speakers lead us into a look at what a real man is and isn't! The weekend will also include plenty of "man" event options like paintball, high ropes course, skeet shooting, archery, zipline, horseback riding, etc. Space is limited so don't delay! *Register online at northcoastchurch.com/real-man-weekend*