



## A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families

*For the week of January 29, 2023*

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

### Warm Up

- **What is one significant thing/person/event God used to bring you to this spiritual point in your life?**
- **Last Week:** The Gospel is not being righteous FOR God. It is receiving righteousness FROM God. Why do we need the Gospel? We are under God's just wrath for the way we have turned to idols, and our false worship has had terrible, dehumanizing consequences.
- **This Week:** How God judges (and does not judge) us.

### Romans 2:1-16

### *God's Righteous Judgment*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. <sup>2</sup>We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things. <sup>3</sup>Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God?

- **Why does Paul now address people who judge in right after the denouncing pagan religion in [Romans 1:18-32](#)?**
- **What are the consequences of condemning and judging others?**
- **Paul himself condemns certain behaviors and attitudes as sinful. So, what does "passing judgment" (1) really mean?**

<sup>4</sup>Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? <sup>5</sup>But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

- **What do we see about the patience of God?**
- **How exactly does God's kindness lead to repentance? Can you share a story of how you experienced this?**

- **God takes His time and never judges as quickly as He has a right to. Have you seen this?**
- **The MOST patient and loving act of God is to bring us to repentance. SO, the hard things of life may actually be kindnesses. Have you seen this?**
- **"Storing up wrath" (5). The more God gives us truth and good things and we don't repent, the more serious the judgment. Seeing good things as deserved hardens us. Have you seen this?**

<sup>6</sup>He will render to each one according to his works: <sup>7</sup>to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; <sup>8</sup>but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. <sup>9</sup>There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, <sup>10</sup>but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. <sup>11</sup>For God shows no partiality.

- **What is the general test by which God will judge everyone at the end of our lives?**
- **Does this contradict what Paul declared in [Romans 1:16-17](#)?**
- **What are some of the specific heart-diagnostics described in vv.7-8?**
- **What is the point of v.11?**

<sup>12</sup> For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. <sup>13</sup> For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. <sup>14</sup> For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. <sup>15</sup> They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them <sup>16</sup> on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

- **How do people without the law of God still have it written upon their conscience?**
- **How does it change the way you live now if you believe that a judgment day is coming?**
- **Pray together in light of this week's passage.**



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