

CONVERSATION GUIDE

RULE #6: NEVER MAKE YOURSELF THE FINAL JUDGE

James 4.11-12 | Pastor Tim Prince

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Faith Community Church | fcchudson.com

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted every Friday in the News & Blog section of our website. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends and in your Bible studies!

***QUESTIONS FOR KIDS!** Questions most suitable for children are marked with an asterisk.

Conversation Questions

1. Was there ever a time when you put your "foot in your mouth," and said or did something when you didn't have all the information? Share the story.
2. *Read James 4:11-12 and Matthew 12:36-37. What words or phrases stand out to you? Why?
3. *James is making judgments about the behavior of the people that he's writing to. Do you think he is breaking the very commandment that he's giving? Why or why not? (Try to answer this before reading "a" and "b" below.)
 - a. *Hint: The Bible teaches that we are to be discerning, but not judgmental. It is appropriate to make judgements about what is right and wrong. James does this throughout his letter!*
 - b. *Hint: When James talks about judgment, he is talking about becoming suspicious of others, making assumptions about their motives, slandering their reputation, and choosing to believe the worst about others.*
4. "Judging" is claiming the authority to declare that this person is all wrong. Why does James say that we do not have the authority to do this (v.12)?
5. *Understanding the difference between discernment and judgment is important, especially in a world that is so quick to dismiss and cancel people. How would understanding this difference change the way you treat people?
6. Take a moment to pray for our nation, community and its leaders in light of your study today.