

GAMES WE PLAY

The Change Game

We have a natural tendency to be critical toward others because we want others to change for our benefit. So how does Jesus actually address this idea of being critical and judging others? Is it ever healthy? How do *you* want to be judged?

Discussion Questions

1. Are people more likely to leave positive or negative reviews online? When was the last time you left a positive or negative review?
2. Is being “critical” easy for you? Do you tend to judge quickly? What is the difference between exercising constructive criticism and being judgmental?
3. Playing the **Change Game** in life results in looking and focusing on others. Read Matthew 7:1–6. Jesus reshapes our understanding of the Change Game and forces us to look at ourselves before we look at others. What does Jesus mean when he says, “Do not judge”? Should we eliminate judgment and criticism from life?
4. We can live life holding a magnifying glass or a mirror. The former causes us to focus on others. The latter causes us to reflect on our own areas of growth. With a mirror in hand, what area of life is God inviting you to change?
5. One practical step in “holding a mirror” is to invite accountability into your life. It’s a helpful exercise to ask others, “What is it like to be on the opposite side of me?” Who can you invite into your life to speak truthfully and honestly with you?