 **Message Outline**

 *The GOAT Sermon:*

*Judging, Seeking, Entering*

 **Matthew 7:1-14**

**Intro:** Last week topic: worry/stress/anxiety...

* Jesus didn’t pretend problems weren’t part of life’s reality (6:34), but shows us perspective to process thru life’s problems…

**Read:** Matthew 7:1-14

* Structure of The GOAT Sermon…

 -Mt.5: Blessed Life contrasted with broken life…

 -Mt.6: Practices to put broken piece back together…

 -Mt.7: Earthly choices and eternal implications…

**Judging (v.1-6)**

* v.1 and the most abused verse in Bible…
* Context is against hypocritical judgment, not making any judgment calls in life…
* The Bible’s command for good judgements (cf. Mt.7:15-20, 18:15, 19:28, Jn.7:24, 1Cor.5:12-13)…
* Principles for making good judgments…

 a) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 b) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 c) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Ask, Seek, Knock (v.7-11)**

* Persistence in the asking, seeking, knocking...
* Present acts, future fulfillments…
* God’s desire in gifting His children good gifts…

**Golden Rule and Golden Gates (v.12-14)**

* Golden rule sums up the Bible’s rules…

 -Knowing self’s desires is first steps in serving others well…

* Two paths contrasted at every angle…
* Which path are you walking? (cf. 7:21-27).

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 **Small Group**

**Reflection Questions**

(Please take time to ponder and pencil in

to prep for this week’s small group session.)

*\*****Watch:*** *Ep.8 “Sustenance” (75min).*

 *(Because of the length of this episode, we may return to certain clips to discuss further in next week’s group discussion.) What most caught your attention watching this episode?*

*\*When Jesus feeds 5,000, He talks about “spiritual food” and “actual food” and He supplies both in that gathering. What are ways you see Jesus’ people today meeting “spiritual” and “actual” needs?*

*\*In this episode, Jesus said to Peter: “I have much planned for you Simon, including hard things…just keep your eyes on me.” If Jesus gave you a quote at the end of this episode in your life, what would He say? (Clue: it might be helpful to start with, “I have much planned for you \_\_\_\_\_\_, including \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_...just keep your eyes on me.”)*

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