

17 September 2023

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – PROPER 19

GOD CALLS
US TO SHOW
MERCY AND
NOT JUDGE
OTHERS





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Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

- 1. Have you ever felt judged by somebody? How did you feel?
- 2. Why should we be careful about judging others?



BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week. Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

1st reading

Exodus 14:19-31

Parting of the Red Sea

2nd reading Romans 14:1-12

The weak and the strong

Gospel reading

Matthew 18:21-35

A parable about forgiveness

DISCUSS

How would you feel if you were the king in the story from Matthew, and you found out what your servant did after you showed mercy?



ACTION RESPONSE

Politicians are easy targets for people to judge. Prepare a letter to send to an elected leader in your community. Thank them for their work on your behalf and let them know that you are praying for them.



PRAYER

Lord, help us not to judge others. Help us to accept them and be kind to them. Amen.



MEALTIME PRAYER

Lord, as we eat the food you give, make us ready to forgive. We're so glad we have your love; thank you, Father, up above. Amen.



BLESSING

May the Lord forgive you all your sins and help you to forgive others.

SO WHY DO YOU JUDGE YOUR BROTHERS OR SISTERS IN CHRIST? AND WHY DO YOU THINK YOU ARE BETTER THAN THEY ARE? WE WILL ALL STAND BEFORE GOD TO BE JUDGED.

ROMANS 14:10



VERSE OF THE WEEK