



*You may think you can condemn such people, but you are just as bad, and you have no excuse! When you say they are wicked and should be punished, you are condemning yourself, for you who judge others do these very same things. **Romans 2:1***



If you had to choose one role in a courtroom, which would you be and why: judge, defence lawyer, prosecutor, witness, or jury?

1. Why does Paul say that we have no excuse when we judge others in **Romans 2:1-3**?
 - If we as “judges” do the very same things, what does that reveal about our human nature?
 - Can you recall a time when you judged a situation in someone's life which mirrored something in your own life?
 - What would it mean to “drop the gavel” as Ps Inoke said?
2. Ps Inoke highlighted that it was *“God’s kindness that leads us to repentance, not His criticism.”* (Romans 2:4) How has, or did, God’s kindness – rather than fear or guilt - lead you to repentance?
 - How should this verse reshape the way we respond to people caught in sin?
3. Ps Inoke also said, *“The Church is not a museum for perfect Christians, but a hospital for sinners.”*
 - How does this image challenge the general view of Church?
 - What should it look like for Catalyst to be a safe place for the struggling?
 - What part can you play in that?

Read Romans 2:12-16

4. What does this passage teach about how seriously God treats sin and His judgement of it?
 - If God judges the secrets of the heart, how should that affect the way we view our moral performance?
 - Ps Inoke said, *“The Judge has stepped down from the bench and taken our place in the dock.”* What does this tell you about God’s character and His sense of justice?
 - What hopes or feelings do you have when faced with the truth of Romans 8:1?

5. When we think about hope and transformation, what would it look like for our Church to be known as a place where:
 - The mess is not hidden
 - Grace is the norm
 - Repentance is celebrated
 - Love is unconditional(provide concrete answers to each of the above)

6. Ps Inoke spoke about the mirror test (re-read Romans 2:4) When you next catch yourself judging someone:
 - How or what can you pray?
 - What can you practically do, instead of criticising/judging?

7. Think through the following – you may be willing to share, but his may remain a personal reflection:
 - Where are you minimising your own sin?
 - Where have you been harsh instead of kind?
 - Where is God inviting you to repentance through His kindness?

How can we pray for each other and hold each other accountable to what we have learnt this week?

