



Town + Field

CHURCH

Sunday, March 7

Leader Discussion Guide

Matthew: The Not Normal Kingdom

LIFE CHECK-IN (10 minutes)

Take a few minutes to do an emotional health check-in with your Community, creating space for each person to answer the question below:

- In what areas of your life do you feel like you are bumping up against your limits? Do you sense any invitation from God as you notice these limits?
- If the need arises, spend a few minutes praying for one another, asking God to meet needs and help each person carry what feels heavy right now.

OPENING PRAYER (5-7 minutes)

Spend a few minutes listening for what God might be up to in your group.

TEACHING SUMMARY (2-5 minutes)

This week Pastor Ryan kicked off a new sermon series that will take us through the book of Matthew called “The Not Normal Kingdom”.

- How would your group summarize the teaching in their own words?
- Or, what stood out to you from the teaching?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (20-30 minutes)

- If someone were to ask you what the gospel is, how would you define it?
- Ryan defined the gospel as “the good news that Jesus gave his life to restore a broken world, inviting us into relationship with him and to participate in his kingdom”. What sticks out to you from this definition?
- How actively do you feel that you currently “participate in the kingdom”?

- Ryan argued that the mission of the church shouldn’t be about trying to get back to “normal” in the church, but rather looking forward to something deeper and more meaningful that God has in store for the church.
 - Do you agree? Disagree?
 - When you think about the future of the church, what do you feel? (Hope? Fear? Uncertainty?) Why do you think you feel that?
 - What would you like the church of the future to look like?
 - What are some changes that you think are important for the church to make for the future in order to better participate in the kingdom?
- Are there ways you have just “hit pause” during Covid rather than blazing forward in your relationship with Jesus? How can you unpause?

PRAYER (5-7 minutes)

- Spend a few minutes praying for God’s grace over each other, that we might become a people who make Jesus our Lord, and that there might be a sweeping renewal of the Holy Spirit in our city. Ask that God would stir up within us a desire to be with him in prayer and to serve him and our neighbor in love..

LEADER NOTES

These questions are a guide; feel free to use/exclude ones as people may have already answered the question or talked about the theme OR if your group takes a long time to tackle one particular theme it’s ok to skip over questions in the interest of time/focus.