



Town + Field

CHURCH

Sunday, June 13

Leader Discussion Guide

Matthew: The Not Normal Kingdom

LIFE CHECK-IN (10 minutes)

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

- How has bible reading been for you the last couple of weeks?
- How have your times of prayer been?

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 Ryan continued our sermon series through the book of Matthew called "The Not Normal Kingdom". Take a moment to read Matthew 5:10-12 as a group out loud.

- 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)

Ryan started his message off by challenging us to ask ourselves "Do I trust Jesus? Do I believe him?" Where are you at with this? When Jesus offers a very challenging teaching, what's your typical reaction and response?

We've just wrapped up these 8 lines of teaching called the "beatitudes". Which one of them is sticking out to you the most in this series so far? Why?

Ryan challenged the idea of trying to attach our worldly comfort and experience to our relationship with Jesus. How does this sit with you and what ideas does it bring to your mind?

Ryan reflected on how many of the heroes of the faith in the Bible went through intense persecution in their journey. When thinking of this, which character comes to your mind? How might their story encourage you?

This suggestion that the world could use a stronger "theology of suffering" - How does this sit with you? How might you lean into growing and developing in this area?

How do you typically approach persecution and suffering in life? How might you grow in the ways that you trust Jesus' teachings in Matthew 5:10-12?

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.
- Take a few minutes to quietly remember and pray for your three.

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.