



Town + Field

CHURCH

Sunday, March 14
Leader Discussion Guide

Matthew: The Not Normal Kingdom

LIFE CHECK-IN (10 minutes)

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

- How has your God-time been lately? What have you been reading in scripture? What has prayer looked like for you this last week?
- If the need arises, spend a few minutes praying for one another, asking God to meet needs and help each person carry what may feel 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 continued our 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)

- Have you ever researched your family tree? If so, how far back can you trace your family? What does knowing your family history tell you about who you are? What did your family pass on to you (consider genetics, behaviors, culture, etc.)?
 - In addition, how has your family story shaped or formed your life and who you are?
- Ryan has been drawing parallels between the story of the Israelite people (in the genealogy) and our challenges today. One example this week was when Israel fashioned a golden calf. We think of this as odd, but they were simply doing what the rest of the culture called "normal." What is your "normal" golden calf?
- In what ways do you find yourself addicted to "normal"? What are the anxieties or fears that "normal" helps you avoid?

- What do you believe God is inviting you into through this sermon and scripture?
- How have you experienced the "not normal kingdom" of God?
 - What could it look like to part with normal this week and practice the way of Jesus instead?
- How do you believe God is at work in your life circumstances (work, family, social life, etc.)?

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.