



Town + Field

CHURCH

Sunday, April 11

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:

- 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?

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 sermon series that will take us through the book of Matthew called "The Not Normal Kingdom". Take a moment to read Matthew 2:13-23 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)

- In this sermon, Ryan dug deep into the parallels we find here and with the Old Testament prophets, the Old Testament law, and even the Old Testament narrative.
 - Did you learn anything new?
 - Did anything in particular stick out to you?
- Can you think of other interesting parallels (connections) between Jesus and the Old Testament text? (Might be a cool opportunity to brainstorm as a Community Group)

- Why do you think Jesus re-enacted the story of the Exodus of the nation of Israel coming out of bondage and toward the promised land? What is significant about this?
- Ryan talked about the way of Herod vs. the way of Jesus..
 - How would you describe the way of Herod?
 - What areas of our culture do you think reflect the way of Herod?
 - What areas of your life do you think might reflect the character of Herod?
- As we continue through Matthew what are you looking forward to in this series?

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.