



Town + Field

CHURCH

Sunday, May 9

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:

- What was a high and what was a low from the last week?
- Where did you see/sense/feel/hear/experience God in that time?

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 Bill Taylor continued our sermon series through the book of Matthew called "The Not Normal Kingdom". Take a moment to read Matthew 4:12-17 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)

- Which temptations from the kingdom of this world (to be relevant; to be spectacular; to be powerful) do you struggle with most?
 - How do they subtly tempt you? How do Jesus' actions in 4:12-15 show radically different values?
- How do you wrestle with the temptation to be in control, or to promote your rights/autonomy?
 - What power issues do you see the church wrestling with during this time?
- How do you wrestle with the need to "make a name for yourself"?
 - How has the celebrity culture of spectacle weakened our witness in the culture? What can we do to remedy this? (Think about Matthew 5.)

- How do you struggle with the dark side of wanting to make a difference - of wanting to make the message more palatable?
- How are you practicing regular repentance in your life? What in your religious upbringing has helped or hindered an ongoing walk of repentance with the King?

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.