

DATE: February 4, 2024

TITLE: Kingdom Character

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:1-7

SPEAKER: Patrick Mostek

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

OPENING PRAYER

ICE BREAKER: Where have you been where you felt very out of place?

THINK BACK: Referring back to this week's sermon... What is the BIG IDEA of the Scripture AS IT WAS TAUGHT THIS WEEK? Was there anything that left you with questions?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Matthew 5:1-7

1. Have you ever been outside of the country or outside of your cultural context? Did you stand out? If so, why? How did you feel?
2. Why do some non Christians dislike the sermon on the mount?
3. Read 1 Peter 2:11. Christians are called to be sojourners and exiles? What does that mean?
4. What is meekness? How does it show up in the character of a Christian?
5. How can we grow in meekness?
6. How can we tell if Jesus is at the center of our lives or the garnish on the side of the plate?
7. How can we grow in our desire for the things of God?
8. Why is mercy so difficult?
9. Why should Christian, of all people, be a people of mercy?

APPLICATION

Think about what most caught your attention in the text or discussion. Why is God catching your attention with this at this point in your life? What does God want you to know or do? What's one thing from this text that you could say to an unbeliever about who God is?

PRAYER

Ask people for specific prayer requests. Pray for needs and for applications of the text. Ask for volunteers who would like to pray for those people and requests.

SHEPHERDING

Check the roster and see who is not there. Does the group know why someone is not there? Are there needs that can be met by the group? Specific prayer requests? Ask for someone to reach out and say, "We missed you."

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE:

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
Isaiah 43:2-3a

REMINDERS

Small Group Checklist

- Ask about ideas to serve in some way together. Serve 1x every six weeks or so.
- Encourage people to invite friends or neighbors to your group!! One way to reach 'out' together is to welcome people 'in.'
- Discuss childcare, if needed.
- Talk about any upcoming group meals or activities.

Check the bulletin, monthly newsletter and events page on the website for ways that you can get plugged in, as well as events here at FCC. Here are a couple of those things:

- **SAVE THE DATE!** Our next Covenant Member Meeting will be on Sunday, February 11th immediately following 2nd service! Bring a dish to share!
- **SIGN UPS:** CHAOS Meals and D6 Snacks! Our sign ups are pretty empty. Have your small group sign up to sponsor a meal this year! Sign up online!
- **Ignite Youth Conference:** It's not just for the youth! If you enjoy working with kids, and want to learn more about how to disciple them, we encourage adults to attend! Grades 8-12 are invited! More information and sign-up are online!
- Not yet a member of Faith Community Church? Register online to take our membership class on February 13th!