

DATE: December 17th, 2023

TITLE: Coming to the Inconvenient King

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 2:1-12

SPEAKER: Patrick Mostek

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

OPENING PRAYER

ICE BREAKER: Imagine you were to bring Jesus a gift (as the wise men did). What would you bring to our King now days?

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 2:1-12

1. Why do some people respond with hostility to the message of Jesus? (e.g. Herod)
2. Jerusalem is only five miles from Bethlehem. Why didn't the chief priests and scribes go with the wisemen?
3. How is Jesus inconvenient today?
4. Have you ever heard someone say, "it's not about the destination, it's about the journey"? What is positive about that statement? What is wrong with that statement?
5. In the sermon, Patrick said that people today feel it is arrogant to say that you have found the truth? Have you observed this? Why do you think that is?
6. Why is it significant that the wise men worshipped Jesus?
7. Can we give to Jesus today? How do we do that?
8. How do we pursue Jesus today?
9. Why should people still pursue Jesus?

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 meet by the group? Specific prayer requests? Ask for someone to reach out and say, "We missed you."

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:

- **SIGN UPS: CHAOS Meals!** Have your small group sign up to sponsor a meal this year! Sign up online!
- **SIGN UP:** Each small group is being asked to sponsor 1 coffee hour for the year! Please talk about which month would work best and sign up! (Your small group leader has the link)
- Christmas Eve Services will be at 9am and 10:45am, with a Candlelight service at 5PM.
- Men's Ministry is bringing back Ribs & Bingo on January 13th - an event the whole family can enjoy! More details are online!