



# THY KINGDOM COME

A NEW STORY CHURCH SERIES

## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Part 5: Persecution

Pastor Tom Kang

**ICEBREAKER:** Share your thoughts on the recent article from *The Atlantic*, [“Why People Are Acting so Weird.”](#)

- 1) Read the entirety of The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12) together in one voice. What marks you the most and why? Why do you suppose so many, throughout the centuries, have considered this specific passage the most concise and clear teaching of happiness and spiritual health?
- 2) What is your understanding of Christian persecution today? Where do you see and/or experience it? Spend a few minutes glancing through the Voice of the Martyrs website ([persecution.com](http://persecution.com)) and/or @opendoorsusa on Instagram. Then re-read the main passage for this week (Matthew 5:10-12). What are your first impressions and why do you suppose Jesus gives this last beatitude the most air-time?
- 3) Consider your answers above for questions #1 and #2 ... why do you suppose the world would hate the kind of people described in the Beatitudes? What does John 15:18-20 bring to this discussion? How do you feel about 2 Timothy 3:12?
- 4) Pastor Tom mentioned 3 Biblical RESPONSES to Persecution. What were they and how do the following passages apply: Ephesians 6:10-13; Romans 12:17,21; Matthew 5:44; Matthew 5:12
- 5) Likewise 3 Biblical Reasons to REJOICE were offered. What were they and how do the following passages apply: 1Peter 4:14; Acts 5:41; 2Cor 4:16,17; Romans 8:17)
- 6) How can you apply the points above in your life this week? And finally, discuss the merits of the following quote: “Oh believe me, Christians are not so much in danger when they are persecuted as when they are admired.” (Charles Spurgeon, *New Park Street Pulpit*, Vol. 1)



### Easter Service at LATTC

Come celebrate Easter with us outdoors at LATTC. We will have one service at 10 am together as a family with baptisms and festivities for everyone. Please click the QR code to get all the details about Easter and baptism. Make sure to invite your family and friends to join our celebration.