



THE GENIUS OF JESUS

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE



PART 1: THE GENIUS OF JESUS Forrest Jenan – September 20, 2015

HANG OUT (Warming up to the topic)

1. Take time to review this week's teaching and discuss your reactions. Talk about what most challenged, puzzled and encouraged you?
2. Remember Matthew records two types of people listening to Jesus during the Sermon on the Mount—the curious crowds and the dedicated disciples. If you were in Jesus' audience that day, which group would you most identify with and why?

HEAR (Listening to God through Scripture)

3. Read Matthew 5:1-12.

Leader Notes: Remember the Beatitudes are not ideals to be achieved but representative of a wider invitation to participate in the new thing God was doing through Jesus

Word Study: Blessed = God's gracious rule/salvation covering your life. God is with you

Word Study: Kingdom = God's reign and rule. Jesus was God breaking back into human history inviting people back into relationship with himself. This is the "Kingdom."

- What verse or idea stands out to you and why?
- Why do you think Jesus was making a point to include "those" (the people outside the religious "in" crowd)?
- What's your initial emotional response to the "Beatitudes?" Encouraging, intimidating, confusing?

HUDDLE (Making it personal and Prayer)

4. What do you think is a good way to develop a heart/desire to be a disciple (apprentice of Jesus)? Have you worked this into your life? How can we help?