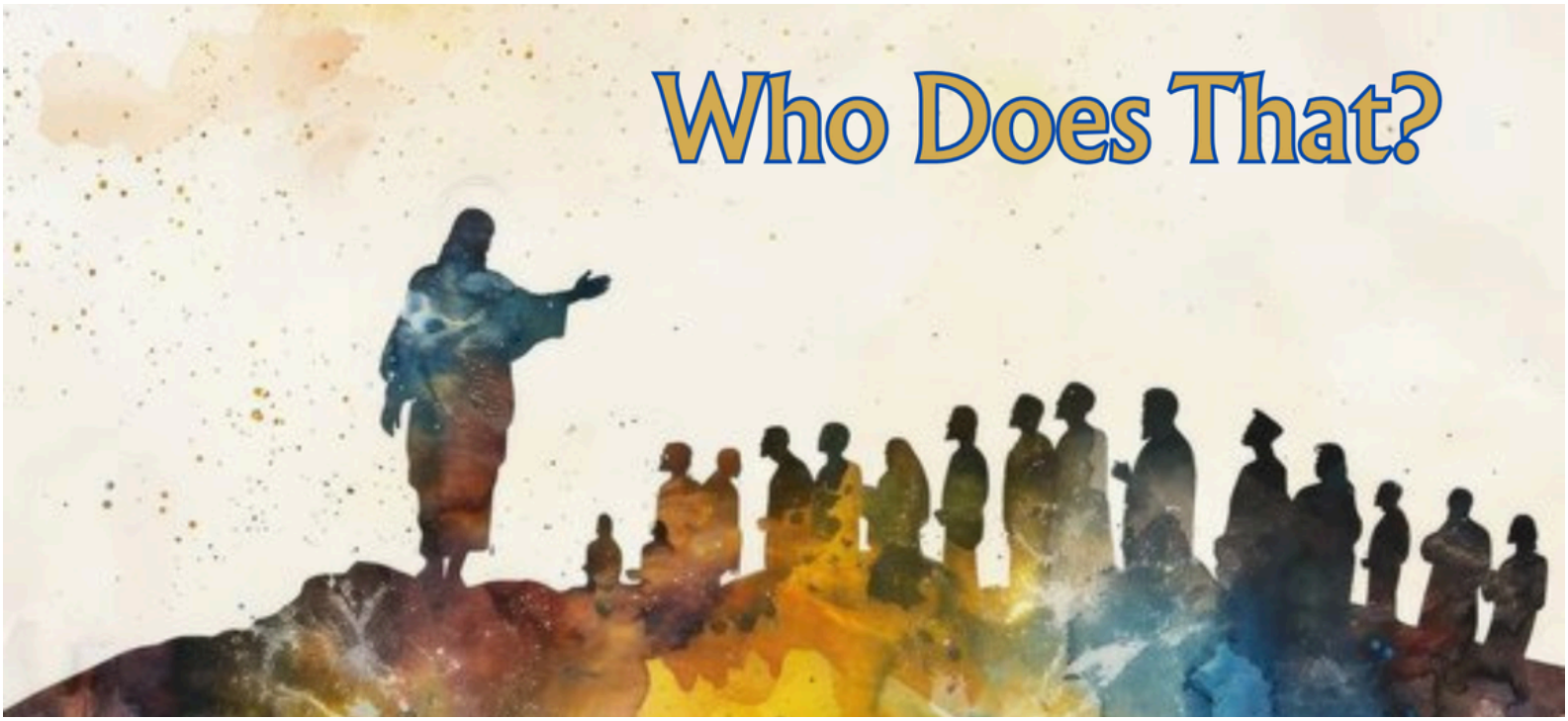


Small Groups Discussion Questions

Week 1: Be The Bigger Person (Matthew 5:14-26)

Can you describe a moment when someone responded in such an unexpected, gracious, or selfless way that it made you stop and think, "Who does that?"

1. Surpassing Greatness

Read Matthew 5:20.
What do you think Jesus meant when He said our righteousness must surpass that of the Pharisees? Is it possible to appear spiritually "good" on the outside while still missing the heart of God? How is legal righteousness different from inner righteousness?

2. The Kingdom Type

Read Matthew 5:14–16.
What do you think Jesus is emphasizing in these verses? What is the difference between following rules because you have to and living differently because God is changing who you are?

3. Avoiding a Spiritual TKO

Read Matthew 5:21–22.
Why do you think Jesus compares anger, insults, and contempt toward others with murder? What do these kinds of attitudes reveal about the human heart? Why do you think the way followers of Jesus treat one another matters so much to Him?

4. The True Intent

Read Matthew 5:23–26.
How is Jesus challenging His followers to "be the bigger person" in these verses? What do these instructions reveal about the kind of heart God desires from His people? How does this reflect what God has done for us through Jesus?

5. No Excuses

What intentional steps can we take toward repairing broken relationships, pursuing peace, and refusing to harbor resentment?