



FIND FRIENDS | FIND GOD | FIND PURPOSE

January 21, 2018 | Group Discussion Guide

Big Idea:

This week Pastor Jordan launched our new sermon series, "The Best Sermon Ever." What makes this sermon different than all the other sermons that have ever been preached? The answer is found in who is speaking. The one who created the universe with his words is about to speak again. This is the God that is strong enough to create people, but gentle enough to sit with them. Over the next 8 weeks let us be like the disciples and sit with Jesus and hear what he has to say.

Group Questions:

1. As a group read Matthew 5:1-11. Pastor Jordan shared that God wants his creation to live blessed. Which of these "blessed" statements stand out to you? Why?
2. As a group discuss what the word "blessed" means. Are there any statements in Matthew 5:1-11 that contradict your understanding of the word?
3. Pastor Jordan shared:
 - a) Jesus teaches knowing past, present, and future.
 - b) Jesus teaches from a clear spiritual and physical perspective.
 - c) Jesus teaches from a place of love.

As a result, we can trust him. Do you trust God completely? If yes, why do you trust him? If no, what do you need to happen for you to trust him?

4. Have someone read the “next steps” for this week. It can be found on the app under this week’s Prayer and Next Steps tab. Encourage your group to spend some time this week doing the next step.
5. Pray as a Group.

Leader’s Tip:

During this first week back in Groups, you may experience two different reactions in group. First, your group may be slow to engage and share openly. If this is your group, begin by sharing your thoughts first then calling on someone to share. Keep the conversation moving forward, look to your co-leaders or to groups members that are naturally talkative. Second, your group may be excited to be back with everyone again. If this is your group, you may have a challenging time getting onto topic. Start by welcoming everyone back, acknowledge the excitement and celebrate it, then have someone open in prayer.

Finally, make sure you are prepared to spend some extra time either before group starts or afterwards to connect with everyone again. This may mean your group goes long this first week, but if you want authentic relationships to flourish in your group this semester it must start with you.