



Family: Heart of Discipleship– Matthew 12:46-50

May 21, 2023

Since 2015, Christchurch has been privileged to partner with Bilge Ileri and Projekt Istanbul, a church in the metropolis of Istanbul.

We welcomed him on May 21 to preach to us and share the profound reality of Matthew 12:46-50 church *is* family.

For personal reflection/community discussion

Read – Read the passage in its context several times. Read it slow enough to understand what God is saying through it.

- What ideas or words are emphasised, repeated or related in this passage?
- In your own words, what is the main idea of this passage? (Try to summarise these verses in 10 words or less)

Examine – Next, try to understand the specifics of what the passage is communicating.

- What do you notice about God? What has he done/is he doing in these verses?
- What do you learn about Jesus and his gospel from this passage?
- What does it reveal about people?
- How do you think the writer wanted his reader to respond to these words?

Apply - After seeking to understand God's Word in this passage, consider how he intends to use it in your heart and life today.

- Does church feel like a family to you? If not, *why not?* What moves can you make to grow closer to your brothers and sisters?
- Consider again Bilge's question, "might [church as family] be the solution to many of the difficulties we know in society today? *What do you think of this?*"
- Worship Jesus for what he lost in order to bring you into his own family. Direct your thoughts Godward and allow yourself to praise and pray.