

STREET SMARTS

GROUP FOCUS QUESTIONS

Week of: May 2-8, 2021

Text: Matthew 10:34-39

GETTING STARTED:

Do you carry a small knife in your pocket or purse?

DIGGING IN: (Read Mark 12:41-44)

1. How do you suppose the original hearers were impacted by Jesus' statement about bringing a sword rather than peace?
2. How does this statement resonate with you?
3. How can conflict be dangerous? How can it be beneficial?
4. Read again Matthew 10:37-38
 - a. Is Jesus asking too much?
 - b. Is Jesus arrogant? (Explain your answers)

DIGGING DEEPER:

1. Share with your group a relationship in which inner or outer conflict resulted because you were loyal to Jesus and His values.
2. Recall a time recently when you felt the "sharpness" of Jesus' sword in your life and tell what has happened since.
3. What is a next step for you after time with this account from Scripture?

PRAYER SUGGESTION:

Complete the following sentence as a prayer:

"Lord, I will carry your cross _____."