

Community Group Discussion Guide

Step 01: Recap what our current series is all about.

Note: Remind the group what series we're currently on (since not everyone will have been at church recently) and read through the series description provided below to refresh everyone on what it's all about.

Series Title: Jesus Over Everything

Description: One of Jesus' favorite tools for explaining His mission was to teach using parables—short stories that packed as much punch as they did a point. In Matthew 13:45-46, Jesus teaches the parable of a man who sold everything he owned to possess a single pearl of surpassing value and beauty. The point, is that Jesus is the pearl. The punch, is that we must be willing to sell all we have to belong to Jesus, and for Jesus to belong to us. The question is, are we willing?

Step 02: Recap of this week's message.

Note: Read through the message outline with everyone briefly. You can stop and make comments as you see fit or read straight through it. Make sure you take time to read through the main text.

Message Title: Jesus Over Everything

Main Text: Matthew 13:45-46

Supporting Texts: Matthew 6:33, Jeremiah 9:23-24

Message Outline:

The Point: Jesus is the Pearl

— As Christians, we believe we have found the most valuable thing in life—knowing Jesus. (Jer. 9:23-24)

The Punch: What would you give up to know Him?

— Jesus isn't necessarily going to ask us to give up everything we possess or enjoy in life. The question is would we if He did? And would we still have the same level of joy and peace?

Community Group Discussion Guide

Step 03: Lead group discussion.

Note: Do your best to keep the discussion going. Make sure you have read through the questions beforehand and are primed with thoughts of your own. Make everyone get specific with *how* they will apply this message in their own lives and in community—*no vague ideas allowed!*

Specific to this week's message:

1. What are some of the things we often treat as though they were more valuable than Jesus?
2. What would be the hardest thing Jesus could ask you to give up? (Everyone doesn't have to answer publicly, but make sure you do privately!)

General questions:

3. How did this message encourage you? How did it convict you?
4. What is your plan for applying this message to your personal/daily life?
5. What might it look like for us to live this out in community?
6. Was there anything about this message that stood out to you?