

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of 4/28/24

Opener (10 minutes or less)

If you could use a metaphor to describe your week so far, what would it be and why?

DISCUSSION (50 minutes or less)

Begin your discussion time in prayer. Scripture Reading: Matthew 23:37-39, 24:1-14

Questions:

- What stands out to you from this passage and/or Sunday's teaching? What was new, challenging, or encouraging?
- Jesus laments over Jerusalem, What do you think this metaphor signifies, and why does Jesus use it in this context?
- 3. Jesus prophesies the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem. What significance does the temple hold in Jewish culture and religion, and why would its destruction be such a profound event?
- 4. Matthew 24:1-14 describes signs of the end times, including false messiahs, wars, famines, and earthquakes. How do these signs resonate with events in our world today? Are there parallels between these signs and contemporary global events?

- 5. What role do you think spreading the gospel plays in the culmination of history, and how can believers participate in this mission?
- 6. How can we prepare ourselves spiritually and mentally to endure such trials, and what assurance does Jesus offer to those who remain faithful?
- 7. What lessons can we draw about the importance of remaining vigilant, faithful, and compassionate in the face of uncertainty and adversity?
- 8. How does the message of hope and redemption conveyed in these verses inspire believers to live with purpose and conviction, even amidst tumultuous times?

PERSONAL (30 minutes or less)

- 1. Oikos the 8 to 15 people God supernaturally and strategically places in your life. <u>Any oikos moments you would like to share.</u>
- 2. What is going on in your life (note prayer requests and praise reports)
- 3. Pray

Matthew 23:37-39

37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 38 See, your house is left to you desolate. 39 For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Matthew 24:1-14

I Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. 2 But he answered them, "You see all these, do you not? Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

3 As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" 4 And Jesus answered them, "See that no one leads you astray. 5 For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray. 6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are but the beginning of the birth pains.

9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. 11 And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. 12 And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But the one who endures to the end will be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.