



COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of 01/07/24

Opener (10 minutes or less)

Did you make any New Year Resolutions or ask God for “One Word” for the New Year as a lense into your spiritual growth? Share.

DISCUSSION (50 minutes or less)

Begin your discussion time in prayer.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 17:22-27

Questions:

1. What about Jesus' prediction in verses 22-23 tells us that He wasn't a victim of circumstances?
2. Does Jesus' promise that nothing will be impossible for the one who believes (v. 21) mean that God is obligated to give us what we want if we believe sincerely enough? Why not?
3. What was Jesus' attitude toward the political powers of His day?
4. Why did Jesus miraculously provide money for the temple tax?
5. What does the story of the temple tax teach us about offending other people?
6. Why do you think Jesus did so many miracles for Peter?
7. Would you find it hard to do something unusual for the Lord? How are Christians often “ridiculous” in the world's eyes?

PERSONAL (30 minutes or less)

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

Jesus Again Foretells Death, Resurrection

22 As they were gathering[a] in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men, **23** and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day.” And they were greatly distressed.

The Temple Tax

24 When they came to Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma tax went up to Peter and said, “Does your teacher not pay the tax?” **25** He said, “Yes.” And when he came into the house, Jesus spoke to him first, saying, “What do you think, Simon? From whom do kings of the earth take toll or tax? From their sons or from others?” **26** And when he said, “From others,” Jesus said to him, “Then the sons are free. **27** However, not to give offense to them, go to the sea and cast a hook and take the first fish that comes up, and when you open its mouth you will find a shekel.[b] Take that and give it to them for me and for yourself.”