

Small Group Guide



Opening Question: Share a time when you felt wronged or insulted. How did you respond, and how do you wish you had responded?

Key Takeaways:

1. Jesus teaches us to respond to injury and injustice in ways that reflect God's kingdom, not worldly reactions.
2. The Sermon on the Mount provides case studies to help us think like citizens of God's kingdom, not rigid rules.
3. Following Jesus means actively unlearning worldly ways and conforming our lives to His pattern.
4. Our calling is to give the world a reflection of God, even in difficult situations.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does Jesus' teaching on "turning the other cheek" challenge our natural instincts? What might this look like in modern contexts?
2. The sermon mentions that "eye for an eye" was meant to limit revenge, not promote it. How does this change your understanding of that Old Testament law?
3. Discuss the concept of "not resisting an evil person" as presented in the sermon. How is this different from being passive or allowing injustice?
4. How does the civil rights movement's approach, as described in the sermon, exemplify Jesus' teachings? Can you think of other historical or contemporary examples?
5. The sermon states, "To love those who love you... makes you a good pagan." How does this challenge your understanding of what it means to follow Jesus?
6. Reflect on the statement: "Martin Luther King recognized... White people were also held bondage by forces of evil." How does this perspective change how we view those who wrong us?
7. How can we apply Jesus' teaching on "going the extra mile" in our daily lives and relationships?