

THE UPSIDE-DOWN KINGDOM (Matthew 11:1-6, 11:25-30, 12:9-14, 12:33-37)

CONNECT—Think of a fun-icebreaker question to ask. For example, what is the top on your bucket list of travel locations?

DISCUSS

What most stood out to you from Justin's sermon this past week? What was one of your big takeaways?

Read Matthew 11:1-6

What most stands out to you from the passage of Scripture? Why might John have been offended by Jesus' response to his question in these verses? Describe a time when God let you experience physical or emotional discomfort but it resulted in spiritual growth.

Read Matthew 11:25-30

What most stands out to you from this passage of Scripture? If you had to summarize what Jesus is saying in verse 25 through 27, what would you say? *[From ESV Study Bible: wise and understanding. Those who are wise in the world's eyes but are unrepentant and stubbornly refuse to accept the gospel. little children. Those who receive the gospel in simple faith.]* In what ways, was your life burdensome before Christ? How have you experience Jesus' yoke to be "easy" and "light"?

Read Matthew 12:9-14

What most stands out to you from this passage? Try to list some regulations that Christians currently treat like the Pharisees treated their Sabbath regulations. How might some of these current Christian regulations keep us from loving people? Why do you think the Pharisees are so mad?

Jesus presents an unexpected and better kingdom in Matthew 11 and 12. What is most compelling to you about the kingdom that Jesus has presented in these chapters? *[Note: This can be from the verses talked about so far or from the sermon.]*

Read Matthew 12:33-37

What most stands out to you from this passage? According to Jesus, what are some of the marks that you are following Him in His Kingdom?

RELATE—Consider splitting into guys and girls for this section.

What has been your biggest spiritual highlight this week? What has been your biggest spiritual struggle this week? What is one action step that you are going to take this week in light of this discussion?

IMPACT (Invite, Engage, Share)

Who is one person that you are going to invite to Life Group next week?