



Matthew: New King, New Kingdom

Cell Notes 2020

STUDY 3. Power of the Upside-Down Kingdom

Aim. To reflect on the signs of God's kingdom Jesus demonstrated and the call to follow him that Matthew intersperses with them. Then to think about how far we model or follow that example.

You Will Need: A large copy/ several smaller copies of the attached chart which shows how Matthew structures the signs and wonders Jesus performed. (It might also help to have copies of the questions for Q1 rather than having to keep repeating them to remind people).

To Start with: What is the most dramatic thing you have ever seen God do?

Engaging the Text:

Part 1. The Power – 15 mins

1. Split into twos or threes. Each group takes one of the healings to discuss. (Boxes 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 first).
 - Consider the attitude and reaction of those who were sick
 - Consider the attitude and reaction of those who brought the sick
 - Consider how Jesus acted
 - What (if anything) did Jesus say?
 - How might this incident have changed the person's life?

Briefly share your findings.

Part 2. The Call – 10 mins

2. Split into two groups this time. Each takes one of the 'follow' boxes and discusses what each teaches/shows us about following Jesus.
3. Feed back and contrast the different responses to the call to follow.
4. Why do you think these calls to follow are interspersed between the amazing signs and wonders?

Part 3. The Response – 10 mins

5. Give people time in quiet to consider:
 - Which of these responses best reflects your response to Jesus?
 - How has Jesus brought his kingdom into YOUR life?
 - How can we bring the Kingdom of God into the lives of those around us?

If you have time, people can share in pairs. If not, follow the instructions Jesus gave at the end of Chapter 9 and pray for more workers to go into the harvest field, and for us all to be more effective and courageous in bringing the Kingdom of God here in our context.