

August 4, 2019

NMC SERMON SERIES CONTENT

DISCUSSION GUIDE



AFTER FURTHER REVIEW;



WEEK 1

Overview of “After Further Review”

This is a 5 week series called “After Further Review”, where we will examine Jesus’ most famous sermon and evaluate our own responses along the way. We often find ourselves moving through life with priorities out of order, direction blurred, and assumptions about how life should turn out. Jesus was the master at challenging his disciples to live with a fresh start and a new focus. The Sermon on the Mount stands as a message that is countercultural to the world—a message where losing becomes our gain, weakness becomes our strength, love becomes our currency, and people become our investment. As followers of Jesus, how are we each doing in these areas? Think about the journey of faith like a football game...how many times would a referee look at our lives and throw out a yellow flag? Stay tuned...

Icebreaker:

What is your favorite sport to watch / play?

What is greatest sports memory (event that you attended or a personal accomplishment)?

Discussion Questions: **Don't feel like you have to get through all the questions below. We create and give you more than you need to ensure that you have all that you need. Feel free to add / takeaway based on the needs of your group.*

Read Psalms 139:23-24

What does it say about David, the King of Israel, that he would ask God for insight and help?

What does this teach us about David’s view of himself and David’s view of God?

Read Matthew 5:1-2

Rob mentioned that Jesus’ teachings, as well as all other Rabbi’s, were called a yoke. These teachings or yoke were meant to guide a person’s life. And Jesus would say in Matthew 11:30 that is “yoke is easy and His burden is light.”

In light of this, Read Matthew 5:3-10 and discuss how Jesus’s yoke is different than the worlds teachings and how they are “easy” and “light.”

How does the translation of “poor” to “powerless” change your understanding on Matthew 5:3?

Read 2 Corinthians 12:9

What is the promise to those who are and who admit they are “poor in spirit”?

Is there a difference in being “poor in spirit” and admitting you are “poor in spirit”? If so, what is it?

How does the promise to those who admit they are “poor in spirit” encourage us to say to God “I can’t, but God you can... please help me!”

Think of a time and share a story of times in your life where things could have played out in a different—and more life-giving—way if you had only asked God to help you?

Knowing what you know now, how would you encourage others to trust God and follow Him even though His yoke seems counter-cultural?

What can you takeaway and start applying from this discussion?

How can the group around you help you?