

# citygroups

## Leader Discussion Guide

Fall 2019

Week of August 25

*City Groups exist as an extension of our Sunday gatherings, providing an environment for **spiritual formation** through intentional **study, prayer, and fellowship**, to **equip** Christ followers to **make disciples**.*

Sunday Series: Rearrange

Series Focus: *Rearrange our lives around Jesus' Kingdom*

Sermon Focus: *"Rearrange What You Believe Matters Most"*

Discussion Focus

**Read (Primary Text): Mathew 6:25-33**

Supporting Texts: Daniel 4:34; Matthew 4:23; Philippians 3:4-11; 2 Timothy 2:12; Revelation 11:15

**Main Idea:** Jesus calls us to make his kingdom our first priority.

Starter Questions:

- How do you prioritize the tasks of your day?
- Do you schedule difficult meetings/tasks first or last?
- How do you choose what to prioritize in a week?
- What would your family or friends say you prioritize most?

Observe:

What does Jesus command his followers to do in Matthew 6:25? (*"Do not be anxious"*)

In verse 32, Jesus tells his followers why they aren't to be anxious. What reason does he give? (*"your heavenly Father knows that you need them all"*)

Verse 33 provides Jesus' second command in this passage. What does he call his followers to? (*"Seek first the kingdom of God"*)

Interpret:

In Matthew 6:25 Jesus asks his followers a question. He says, "Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing." Why do you think Jesus is asking his followers this question? (*He*

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wants them to examine their priorities in life. He's even calling them to consider that their view of life's aim is wrong.)

In commanding his followers to "Seek first the kingdom..." Jesus places priority, not exclusivity, on seeking the Kingdom of God. Why is this significant? *(Jesus is laying claim to the lives of his followers. He is telling them what should matter most. He's interested in their first priority.)*

### Respond:

Jesus calls his followers to orient their lives around his Kingdom. What are you tempted to pursue instead of the Kingdom of God? Why do you think that is?

Jeremy Treat defines God's Kingdom as "God's rule through God's people over God's place."<sup>1</sup> Where can we see this displayed today? *(The Church gathered on Sundays and in Groups— God's people, Christians, gather to praise God, study his word and understand his reign in God's creation.)*

### Apply:

If what we've said about God's Kingdom is true, how are we then to prioritize the gathering of God's people and the work of the church? How does this demonstrate what matters most to us? *(We prioritize the gathering of God's people and being equipped on Sunday to be sent into the world on Monday to continue displaying and declaring the Kingdom)*

How is the Lord calling you to better orient your life around his kingdom? *(Sharing the gospel, discipling others, serving the church)*

Revelation 11:15 shows us what awaits God's creation. It says, "Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.'" The final victory belongs to Jesus. If we "seek first" Jesus' Kingdom, what awaits us? *(We are promised victory if we seek Jesus' Kingdom first. He secures our hope, and as 2 Timothy 2:12 says, we are promised to reign with Christ, if in seeking his Kingdom now we suffer with him.)*

How does this encourage you to "seek first" Jesus' Kingdom?

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<sup>1</sup> Jeremy Treat, *Seek First*, 15.