



#### Check In

Connect with God honestly about where you are at



#### Reflect

"Review until" something pops to talk to God about



#### Share

Talk with God & others about what is now on your heart to do

## Matthew

### Session 5 - Discipleship in the Kingdom of the Heaven

#### Check-In

God is glad to connect with you. He wants to hear about how you are doing. Take a moment to notice your primary emotion of the day to help yourself be fully present. Consider whether you are primarily sad, angry, scared, happy, tender, etc. Share with God that emotion. Write out: What are you thankful about? Ask him, "How does he feel about you?"

#### Reflect

Spend some time with the biblical texts and the resources below. Do so until something pops out to you; feel free to stop when the Lord prompts you this way. Talk with God about what encourages, challenges, or confuses you.

#### Read Matthew 4:12-25

*Matthew continues his stories of Jesus' modeling life in the Kingdom of Heaven in repentance, or surrender, in his baptism (3:13-17), resisting temptation and evil (4:1-11), and now renunciation of our old ways (4:12-25). Jesus' salvation comes from the North, where invasion usually came. And his salvation is complete from demons, death, and sin. The call to follow him requires the renunciation of our old ways, relations, and vocations. Following Jesus reforms your whole life (Sermon on the Mount, 5:1-7:29).*

**Immanuel, God With Us** - What is it like to be with Jesus?

**Teaching, as revelation** - What does Jesus' teaching reveal about reality? God? People? The world? The enemy?

**The Church** - What do you learn about the true Israel and the community of people shaped by life with Jesus?

Read the commentary, *The Gospel of Matthew: Torah for the Church* on "[Christ Settles in Galilee & Calls His Disciples](#)"

#### Share

Be quiet for 3 minutes. What do you sense God is saying to you? How will you pursue being faithful with that this week? The community is blessed when we share out of our life experiences, gifts, time with God, and reflect on scripture. We believe everyone contributes to teaching. What insight, question, or experience do you want to share with us?

#### Steps for Church Families of Prayerful Love:

- What are you thankful for? What challenges are happening in your life, family, and community?
- What did you like/not like about the Scripture?
- What did you learn about God and people from the Scripture?
- What do you think God is inviting you to live with him this week?
- Who do you know who needs to hear this?
- Ask God: How can I bless (body, labor, emotions, social, spiritual) those people who need this?