



MAY 12, 2024
REIMAGINED BELONGING
MATTHEW 19:1-12

Introduction

God's Beautiful Plan

This Isn't How It Was Supposed To Be

Facilitating Belonging In a Damaged Creation

Big Idea:

When the world isn't how it was supposed to be,
and isn't yet how it will someday be;
work to make it the best it CAN be.

Conclusion

*A disciple of Jesus is someone who is **following** Jesus, is being **changed** by Jesus, and is **committed** to the **mission** of Jesus. (Matthew 4:19)*

HARBOR OF HOPE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH



General Information | info@harborofhope
Pastor Kati | kati@harborofhope.org
Find us on FB, IG, and the Church Center App

Reflection Questions for Groups or Individuals:

1. *The Pharisees came to Jesus to get him to pick a side on a controversial subject. Talk about where you see this pressure to “pick a side” in our world today.*
2. *Instead of answering the Pharisee’s question about divorce, Jesus pointed back to God’s original plan for marriage (that it was to be a place of belonging, companionship, and partnership). How does this challenge our views on marriage today? (ie- marriage being about making us happy, etc.)*
3. *We said that what Jesus said about when divorce is allowed was his way of making the best of a bad situation- protecting women, because they were particularly vulnerable if a marriage ended. We said that basically, Jesus is saying “God doesn’t want any divorce- but sometimes it is the best of bad options in a broken world. When divorce is necessary, make the best of the bad option. Protect the vulnerable.” How have things changed or not changed in our society regarding the “vulnerable” who need protecting in the case of divorce?*
4. *How could we as the Church come alongside people going through a divorce to care for them?*
5. *We also said that the church is meant to create a space where everyone belongs- even if they feel like they don’t belong in other places because they don’t fit into societies “neat categories.” Consider how you, your journey group, and Harbor as a whole facilitate this feeling of belonging for people. What is going well? What could we do better? (Pastor Kati would LOVE to hear your reflections on this!)*

Discovery Bible Study Method for Groups or Individuals

(for more information on this method of Bible study- see <https://www.dbsguide.org/>)

1. Talk: To begin the study, each person answers these questions:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is causing you stress?
- Who needs our help? How can this group help them?

2. Look Back (session 2+)

- Retell story from the previous meeting.
- What did you do differently because of this story?
- Who did you tell and what was the reaction?

3. Read & Re-tell

- One person reads the Bible passage out loud, and the rest follow along.
- Someone else retells the passage by memory, if possible. Others can fill in what is missing.

4. Look

- Read the passage again.
- Discuss what this passage says about God, Jesus or his plan.

5. Look again

- Read the passage once more
- Discuss what this passage says about humans
- Discuss what this passage says about being a disciple of Jesus

6. Inside me

- According to this study, what am I doing well?
- What do I need to change?

7. Who else?

- Who needs to hear this story?
- How can I tell them?
- Who can I invite to study the Bible?

HARBOR OF HOPE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH



General Information | info@harborofhope

Pastor Kati | kati@harborofhope.org

Find us on FB, IG, and the Church Center App