

## CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week #4 - What is Christian Nationalism?



### GETTING STARTED

Think about a time you were misjudged or put into a box that didn't really fit you. What assumptions were made, and how did it feel?

### THIS WEEK'S THEME

The message began with how easily we sort people into boxes. Why do you think this comes so naturally to us? How have you seen this play out in conversations about faith or politics?

How would you explain Christian Nationalism in your own words after hearing this message? What stood out most to you in the definition?

What signs tell you when a version of faith doesn't reflect the heart of Jesus?

Where do you see the difference between healthy patriotism and unhealthy nationalism? Why do you think that line can be so hard to recognize?

What are some modern ways faith can be used in service of power rather than love?

Read Matthew 4:8-9. Why do you think power and control were such a strong temptation for Jesus? Where do you see similar temptations for Christians today?

Read Matthew 20:25-28. How does Jesus redefine leadership? How does this challenge cultural ideas about influence, success, and authority?

Read Ephesians 4:25-32. Which verses feel especially relevant to the current climate in our country? How do anger, fear, or bitterness affect our witness as followers of Jesus?

What does it look like to lead with compassion, mercy, and love in practical, everyday ways?

### TAKING IT HOME

*Where might God be inviting you to loosen your grip on power, certainty, or control—and instead choose empathy, humility, and love this week?*

### PRAY

Gracious God, You call us not to power, but to love. Not to control, but to serve. Help us to recognize when fear or pride pulls us away from your heart. Shape our words, our actions, and our convictions so that they reflect the compassion of Jesus. Teach us to widen the circle, to care for the outsider, and to lead with humility and grace. May our lives point others not to dominance, but to your love. Amen.