

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week #4 - When God rearranges everything



GETTING STARTED

Share a time when someone rearranged something in your house, car, or workspace without asking... and you didn't know whether to laugh, cry, or move to another zip code. What did it reveal about you?

THIS WEEK'S THEME

Read Matthew 2:1-12.

Angie mentioned several historical notes debunking what we've commonly learned about the Magi (not all men, not kings, and likely more than three). Have you heard any of these things before? How do you react when things like this are changed from what you once learned?

Does the presence of the Magi (astrologers, dream interpreters, outsiders, and culturally far from Israel's faith) in the Christmas story challenge your assumptions about who God includes? Why or why not?

What stands out to you about the Magi's willingness to rearrange their entire lives to follow a star they barely understood?

The sermon listed several common beliefs we carry that might need rearranging (worth based on achievement, not enough, must handle everything alone, God disappointed in us, others are "the problem"). Which one resonates most with you and why?

Matthew says that the Magi "returned to their country by another route." What's one "new route" God might be inviting you to take this season?

Angie said, "God rearranges what power looks like to rearrange our image of what power looks like." What does this mean to you?

How might God be inviting you to rearrange who you assume belongs... and what "God at work" looks like?

TAKING IT HOME

Choose one thing to literally rearrange this week – your desk, a room, your schedule, your expectations. As you do, pray: "Jesus, rearrange in me what doesn't point to you."

PRAY

Loving God, rearrange our hearts, our thoughts, our priorities, and our assumptions. Help us walk the road alongside you.