

## Shaping Our Time Together...

Use the following tools to dig into the passage together. The purpose is not just to answer questions but to use these tools to handle God's word well.



What shines from the passage- something new or fresh? What stuck out for you and what surprises were there?



Did these verses raise any questions as you read? How is God calling you to think differently?



Where do you see something of the Father, Son or Holy Spirit?



Make it Personal: What is it telling you to do, commit to or challenges you for an obedient response? How is God changing what I love?



What is there from these verses that you would want to share with someone- Christian, family member or non-Christian?



Why are these verses in the Bible? How do they fit into the Bible's big story?



Try Praying with your Bible open. Where in the passage is there something to..

**ADORE-** What did you learn about God for which you should praise or thank him?

**ADMIT-** What did you learn about yourself for which you could repent?

**ASPIRE-** What did you learn about life that you could aspire to ask for and act on?

# Small Group Dates

## Week 1 Beginning 15th January

The Manifesto Of The Kingdom

Read: Matthew 5 v 1-7 v 29

Focus: Matthew 6 v 19-34

## Week 2 Beginning 29th January

The Mission Of The Kingdom

Read: Matthew 9 v 35-10 v 42

Focus: 10 v 16-33

## Week 3 Beginning 12th February

The Parables Of The Kingdom

Read: Matthew 13 v 1-58

Focus: Matthew 13 v 1-23

## Week 4 Beginning 26th February

Relationships In The Kingdom

Read Matthew 18 v 1-35

Focus: Matthew 18 v 21-35

## Week 5 Beginning 11th March

The Kingdom To Come

Read Matthew 24 v 1-25 v 46

Focus: Matthew 24 v 36-51 & 25 v 31-46



# Small Groups



## THE SAVIOUR WHO TAUGHT

...the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

Matthew 7: 28-29

# Engage

**CHRYSTON**  
PARISH CHURCH

## Why Small Groups

Small groups are a key part of the life of the church family. In small groups we grow, care for, send out disciples as we seek to become more like Jesus from the inside out.

### At Small Group...

- we grow together as disciples as we dig into God's word and pray for each other.
- we care for each other as disciples sharing life and committing to one another.
- we send each other out as disciples encouraged to love and follow Jesus in our day to day lives.



## A Saviour Who Taught

As a teacher, Jesus' uniqueness is summed up at the end of the Sermon on the Mount: 'When Jesus finished saying these things, the crowd was amazed at the way he taught. He wasn't like the teachers of the Law; instead, he taught with authority' Matthew 7 v 28-29.

The teachers of the law did not come up with their own material. There was nothing original in their teaching. They never taught without quoting other sources. They hid behind the great rabbis of the past and claimed no authority of their own.

But Jesus did not teach like that. He didn't hide behind anybody else's authority; he claimed authority of his own. He said, "I tell you on my authority; you can take it from me."

Jesus not only claims that his words have as much authority as God's words; when he speaks, it's as if somebody has suddenly switched on the lights in a dark room. What people heard from the lips of Jesus explained their lives to them. So when we hear Jesus' teaching, we know we're listening to words that are life-changing and profound.

At the same time, much of what he says is very accessible. His illustrations are taken from fields and homes, not from textbooks. What Pope Gregory the Great said of Scripture is true of the words of Jesus: they are 'broad and deep, shallow enough here for the lamb to go wading, but deep enough there for the elephant to swim'.

The heart of Jesus preaching can be found in Matthew 4: 17 *From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."*

We are going to look at what Jesus taught in Matthews Gospel. There are five sermons or what some call five discourses in Matthew each marked by how they end. e.g. Matthew 11 v 1 *When Jesus finished instructing his disciples.*

Each block of teaching is arranged with a shared theme. We are going to focus on one part of each block of teaching but it would be helpful before you come to small group to read each block.

The Manifesto of the Kingdom:  
5 v 1-7 v 29

—  
The Mission of the Kingdom:  
9 v 35-10 v 42

—  
The Parables of the Kingdom:  
13 v 1-58

—  
Relationships in the Kingdom:  
18 v 1-35

—  
The Kingdom To Come:  
24 v 1-25 v 46

You will find some additional resources on the Church website on the engage tab.

[www.chrystonparishchurch.co.uk/engage](http://www.chrystonparishchurch.co.uk/engage)

If you would like to read some Bible notes on the passages why not read here on the Website of Torrance Parish Church.

[www.torranceparishchurch.org.uk/the-word-of-god/daily-bible-reading-notes/](http://www.torranceparishchurch.org.uk/the-word-of-god/daily-bible-reading-notes/)

