



PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE—YOUTH

Lesson 4—Matthew 18

ENCOUNTER—Community Discussion

After reading the passage, take time to journal through the questions below. Don't feel like you have to answer all these questions. Wrestle with the text, and be prepared to share with your community.

How is this God's story?

How is this my story?

How is this others' story?

How is this the world's story?

PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever, Amen.

WEEKLY PRACTICE

Practicing Forgiveness:

Throughout the course of every week people do things to hurt us, and we do things to hurt others. This week be intentional in seeking forgiveness and restoration of relationship between yourself and others. Do not simply let things go and eventually work themselves out. Instead intentionally go to others and seek forgiveness when you have wronged them, and in grace, seek out others who have hurt you in order that they might be forgiven. As you do this each day, journal what it has been like.

How is it difficult to practice forgiveness?

How is your image of others changing by being a person of forgiveness?

Do you sense any change in yourself? Like what?

How do you feel more connected to people this week?

BECOMING MY STORY

• *Psalm 100*

• *2 Corinthians 2:1-11*

• *Galatians 6:1-10*

• *Philippians 4:1-11*

Spend time this week reading and journaling through the above Scriptures. Reflect on how the passage is God's story, my story, others' story, and the world's story. In the context of Matthew 18, consider the following questions:

How are these Scripture passages related to the message in Matthew 18?

How do these Scriptures tell us about the story of God being continued from Matthew 18?

What is God saying to you through these passages?

Consider other passages that you might know related to Matthew 18 and read them this week, journaling as you go.