



#### Check In

Connect with God honestly about where you are at



#### Reflect

"Review until" something pops to talk to God about



#### Share

Talk with God & others about what is now on your heart to do

## Matthew

### Session 10 - Your Heart for God

#### Check-In

God is glad to connect with you. He wants to hear about how you are doing. Take a moment to notice your primary emotion of the day to help yourself be fully present. Consider whether you are primarily sad, angry, scared, happy, tender, etc. Share with God that emotion. Write out: What are you thankful about? Ask him, "How does he feel about you?"

#### Reflect

Spend some time with the biblical texts and the resources below. Do so until something pops out to you; feel free to stop when the Lord prompts you this way. Talk with God about what encourages, challenges, or confuses you.

#### Read Matthew 6:19-34

*Jesus' vision for the heavenly life is a relationship with God the Father that enables his disciples to spontaneously love their enemies. He addresses two main hurdles to this life with God: 1) our relationship with God is abandoned in seeking the approval of others in 6:1-18 and 2) our devotion to God is compromised by our worry and the illusions of wealth in 6:19-34. Jesus has encouraged cultivating a hidden life with God where we will have deepened relationship with him as our reward. Now he turns his attention to the state of our heart's devotion to God. He uses stories of our concerns about security (storing treasure), our happiness (light of our eyes), and the all-consuming nature of amassing wealth (a slave's master) to reveal what a single-minded heart is like. Our worry is a hurdle to our trust in God as a good Father. Jesus assures us of the Father's goodness, knowledge and power to care for those things which press upon our hearts so that we may focus on him and his purposes instead.*

Pay attention to these recurring themes in *The Gospel of Matthew*:

**Immanuel, God With Us** - What is it like to be with Jesus?

**Teaching, as revelation** - What does Jesus' teaching reveal about reality? God? People? The world? The enemy?

**The Church** - What do you learn about the true Israel and the community of people shaped by life with Jesus?

Read this excerpt from [\*The Gospel of Matthew: Torah for the Church\*](#) by Farley

**NOTE:** Is there something you, or your family, need in light of this part of the Sermon? To be heard, prayer, time to practice, or shepherding (truth-telling, encouragement, or support)?

#### Share

Be quiet for 3 minutes. What do you sense God is saying to you? How will you pursue being faithful with that this week? The community is blessed when we share out of our life experiences, gifts, time with God, and reflect on scripture. We believe everyone contributes to teaching. What insight, question, or experience do you want to share with us?

#### Steps for Church Families of Prayerful Love:

- What are you thankful for? What challenges are happening in your life, family, and community?
- What did you like/not like about the Scripture?
- What did you learn about God and people from the Scripture?
- What do you think God is inviting you to live with him this week?
- Who do you know who needs to hear this?
- Ask God: How can I bless (body, labor, emotions, social, spiritual) those people who need this?