



# GROUP STUDY GUIDE

WEEK OF APRIL 27, 2025 | IN THIS WORLD

## WARM-UP QUESTION

Is there an area of your life that feels like a daily struggle or battle?

## PRAY

Before you read Scripture together, take a few moments to open in prayer. Take this time to pray for your group and your time together. You can also join our church in praying for the prompts below.

## 553 Baptisms at Easter Gatherings

Pray over the 553 individuals who gave their lives to Jesus on Easter weekend. Pray for their discipleship, that they will find their crew and continue taking steps to grow to look more like Jesus. If someone in your group got baptized, take time to celebrate them and their decision if you haven't already!

## Men's Night – May 2

Pray for the 2,300 men who've signed up for Men's Night. Pray that God will meet them in a tangible way and that this night will be a catalyst for spiritual growth for these men. Pray for the logistics of the night and that the enemy wouldn't get in the way of men encountering Jesus.

## DISCUSS

Read Matthew 11:12

- What do you notice about the language used in this passage to describe the Kingdom of God?
- How have you seen the Kingdom of Heaven forcefully advancing recently? Where are you seeing opposition arise?

Read Mark 2:1-12

- Why do you think Jesus was so popular? Why do you think people were willing to be uncomfortable (crowded, standing outside, unable to fully hear) just to hear Jesus' words?
- The purpose of the Church is to glorify God, build up and grow believers, reach people and meet their needs—in that order. What has been your understanding of the purpose of the Church?
- What motivated the men to urgently bring their friend to Jesus? Where do you have that same desperation for yourself or others?



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- Verse 6 says that the religious leaders were “sitting there” while crowds who were eager to hear Jesus were forced outside of the house. How can you make space for others to be a part of the mission of the Church?
- In what ways can you celebrate how you’re growing together and sharpening one another as disciples of Jesus? Where do you see opportunities to help one another grow even deeper?

## TAKE ACTION

Acts 1:8 says, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere.” Each of us has the power of the Holy Spirit within us and is called to take ground for the Kingdom!

**What is God speaking to you? What is your next step of obedience to take ground for the Kingdom?**

Spend a few minutes praying as a group, asking God to show you what He’s saying and what you need to obey to help craft your “I will” statement. Then after praying, share your “I will” statements, keeping them as simple and practical as possible.

Discuss how you can hold one another accountable to your commitments this week.