

CG Discussion Questions - Week 1 (9/29-10/5)

Warm Up:

- For many groups, we know the following may not describe your group, so feel free to skip this question if that's the case.
Since this might be the first time meeting together for a few months, or since you may have new people who joined your group, spend some time having each person answer:
 - For any new folks: Name, where you're from, how long you've been in Corvallis/NWH
 - One highlight from the summer and one lowlight from the summer
 - One thing you're trusting the Lord Jesus for this coming year
- Think back to a favorite teacher you've had (maybe from high school, college, work, a Bible teacher, etc.) - what made them memorable and why did you listen to what they had to say?

Discussion:

- Read Matthew 5:1-2 together. Who was Jesus' main audience for His teaching on the mount in Matthew 5-7 (in other words, who came to Him to listen to His teachings?) and why might this be significant in how we interpret Jesus' teachings?
- Read Exodus 34:1-9 together. Based on the things that Moses learned on the mountain, why might it be significant that Jesus goes up on the mountain to teach?
- Have two people read: Matthew 7:27-28 (which is the end of the sermon on the mount) and John 12:49-50. When Jesus "opened His mouth and taught them," why is this significant and what do you think this means for us today?

Application:

- Look back to Exodus 34:8 - what was Moses' response to God? What would it practically look like **this week** for us to position ourselves before Jesus in the same way?
- The passages from Matthew 7 and John 12 show that Jesus' words are also the very words of Father. What might it look like for each of us **to share the things we learn from Jesus with other people in our life** (both believers and not-yet believers)?