



SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
THE KING'S QUALIFICATIONS
MATTHEW 4:1-11

Introduction

Big Idea: God's people desire to do God's will, whatever it requires.

1. Righteousness Starts in the Heart
2. Inside-Out Righteousness in Action
3. What Does This Mean for Me?

*A disciple of Jesus is someone who is **following** Jesus, is being **changed** by Jesus, and is **committed** to the **mission** of Jesus. (Matthew 4:19)*

HARBOR OF HOPE
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Reflection Questions for Groups or Individuals:

1. We talked today about how we sometimes view God's plans like a child, trying to find a technicality to allow us to do what we want, even though we know that in spirit, it is against God's plan for us. Have you ever experienced that?
2. What is your relationship with rules? Do you try diligently to follow the rules? Do you see rules as flexible guidelines? Do you think rules were made to be broken? How does this tendency impact the way you interact with what God says He wants for your life?
3. We've said that disciple is someone who is **following** Jesus, is being **changed** by Jesus, and is **committed to the mission** of Jesus. This message focused on being committed to the mission of Jesus, by desiring God's will above all else. If you could describe your desire for God's will right now- how would you describe it? Are you like the psalmist who love's God's law and wants God's ways, or are you struggling to want what God wants more than what you want?
4. What is God saying to you today about your posture toward His Plans? Is He encouraging you to keep on with your faithful obedience in a tough season? Reminding you that His way is better in the midst of a trial? Is He challenging you to surrender fully to His Will in an area where you are struggling to go His way? If you're in a group- share about this, and pray for each other.

Discovery Bible Study Method for Groups or Individuals

(for more information on this method of Bible study- see <https://www.dbsguide.org/>)

1. Talk: To begin the study, each person answers these questions:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is causing you stress?
- Who needs our help? How can this group help them?

2. Look Back (session 2+)

- Retell story from the previous meeting.
- What did you do differently because of this story?
- Who did you tell and what was the reaction?

3. Read & Re-tell

- One person reads the Bible passage out loud, and the rest follow along.
- Someone else retells the passage by memory, if possible. Others can fill in what is missing.

4. Look

- Read the passage again.
- Discuss what this passage says about God, Jesus or his plan.

5. Look again

- Read the passage once more
- Discuss what this passage says about humans
- Discuss what this passage says about being a disciple of Jesus

6. Inside me

- According to this study, what am I doing well?
- What do I need to change?

7. Who else?

- Who needs to hear this story?
- How can I tell them?
- Who can I invite to study the Bible?

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