



Your Kingdom Come April 13 | Group Guide

Opening reflection on the past eight weeks. (10 minutes)

If your group has met separately while the men read *Fighting Shadows*, spend some time sharing with each other what that experience was like. Use the following questions to guide your conversation if needed.

- How did you see God work in your own life through your time together?
- What (if any) changes would you like to consider making to the rhythms of your group in light of your experiences in the past eight weeks?

Enter into a time of prayer of thanksgiving for what God has done and to celebrate being back together as a whole group.

If your group did not meet separately over the past eight weeks, you could use this opening time to reflect on the experience of studying through the book of Matthew together.

Scripture reading. (25 minutes)

This week we are looking at Matthew 26 and 27. These chapters cover some of the most pivotal events in the history of the world. Your group will spend time tonight reading the chapters out loud in their entirety.

If you are using the NIV, there are 16 section headings in those two chapters. One approach could be to go around the room and have each person read a single section. (People who prefer not to read out loud should feel free to pass.)

Before you begin reading, encourage people to listen and read with their imaginations, putting themselves in the midst of the events. Invite them to mark moments or details that stand out to them.

Pray for receptive hearts. Then read Matthew 26 and 27.

Break into smaller groups for Scripture and sermon discussion. (15 minutes)

In groups of 3-4, discuss the following questions:

- What was it like to hear this entire passage read out loud in a single sitting?
- As you listened, what moments or details stood out to you in a fresh way?
- What insights or reminders came to light?
- In his sermon, Dan said that one of the greatest pathways to intimacy with Christ and maturity in Christ is remembering the suffering of Christ. Why is that?
- How can you more effectively meditate on Christ's sufferings in your life?
- Read 2 Corinthians 5:15. What is a way you can live that verse out in your life in the coming days?

Conclude with prayer requests and prayer. (5 minutes)

Share prayer requests with one another and pray for each other. Spend time thanking Jesus for His sacrifice on the cross.