

Life Group #1
Matthew 11:25-30

Intro (use your own words)

Each week we want to be together in community and get to know Jesus through the Bible. For the next several weeks we are going to look at passages where Jesus describes himself. Over the past week we all have chosen words to describe ourselves. We hope that these words will help others understand who we are. There are many passages in the Bible where Jesus chose words to describe himself. Our goal is simple- we are going to read one of those passages and seek to answer 2 questions: Who is Jesus? How do I relate to Him and follow Him?

Each week we are going to give a little background to the passage, read it and break into smaller groups for discussion. It doesn't matter if you know a lot about Jesus or a little, we want everyone to be able to engage in the discussion.

Our passage this week is unique because it is the only place in all 4 gospels where Jesus tells us about his heart. When the Bible was written, the heart represented the center or core of your being. In this short passage Jesus reveals what his heart is truly like.

There is one thing we may need to define to help us understand the passage. Jesus mentions something called a yoke. A yoke is a piece of wood that a farmer put across 2 animals backs to enable them to do work together. It was also used to have a stronger animal train and guide a younger/weaker animal. Before I read the passage, let me pray.

Read the passage (2X?).

Small Group Discussion

- Let's start with the obvious question- what are the different words that Jesus uses to describe himself?
- When you hear these words, what comes to your mind?
- What do you think Jesus is trying to communicate by using these words?
- How is does this description of Jesus compare to your common perception of Jesus?
- Does this description of Jesus draw you towards him? Why or why not?
- Jesus is speaking to those who are weary and burdened. What are things in your life that have you feeling weary and burdened?
- We are going to read 28-30 again. As I read it, picture that Jesus is saying these words to you. Read 28-30. What is one way you think Jesus wants you to respond right now?
- Pray for each other