

LIFEgroups

Open

Go around and let everyone answer...

What is one thing you are hoping for at the beginning of this new year?

DIG

Why do we use the beginning of a new year to make a fresh start or a new beginning in some way?

Why are we sometimes hesitant to make a change even when we know we need to?

Read: *Isaiah 9.1-2, 6-7*

This passage foretells the coming of a time of renewal with a new king.

What fresh start did this passage promise?

How has Jesus' reign in your heart created something new in you?

This passage doesn't just promise renewal but the reign of a new King - a King of Kings.

What is challenging about letting Jesus be the ultimate authority in your life?

How have you experienced the blessings that come from completely submitting to His authority?

Even knowing that submission to Jesus promises the best life possible, we often still resist completely turning over our will to His. Why?

APPLY

Is there an area of your life that you have been hesitant to turn over to His authority? What's holding you back?

Close with a time of prayer.

Leader Notes

About This Guide

This week's guide comes from the first lesson in a new series from the Gospel of Matthew. This series focuses on Matthew's message of establishing that Jesus is King over all

Big Idea

The story of Jesus is not the story of a mere social reformer, savior, coach, or religious leader. It is the story of God becoming human for the purpose of restoring a lost creation to full fellowship with him.

Reaching Out

Our LIFE Groups are a great place to pour out the love we share into the lives of others. We can't keep this love and community to ourselves. Who do you know that might benefit from being part of your group? Share those names, pray for them, and ask God to give you the courage to talk to them about visiting your group.