

# Matthew Week 45: The Two Sons

## **Scripture Memory of the Month**

*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

Romans 5:8

## **1) CATCH UP ON LIFE**

*This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. Because God is our Father we are family. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)*

Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?

What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)? Are there any practical needs you have right now?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

## **2) DISCUSS THE TEXT - ENGAGE THE HEART**

*Since we follow Jesus we seek to apply the Gospel continually to all of life. God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a Group throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25).*

### **Read Matthew 21:23-27**

Does anything stand out to you from this passage?

### **Read Matthew 21:28-32**

What is the purpose of this parable?

Who is the first son compared to? The second son?

Why does Jesus say that the tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the Kingdom of Heaven before the religious leaders? What does that mean about "the fathers will" for us?

### **Read Matthew 3:1-12**

What is John the Baptist's message?

Why do the tax collectors and prostitutes respond well to this message?

Why do the Pharisees, chief priests, and elders reject his message?

How are you tempted to look to your work instead of Christ's forgiveness for your good standing with God?

### **3) REVIEW THE MISSION**

*Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit we have been sent as missionaries in everyday life to display God's glory and lead others to repentance and faith through belief in the gospel. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)*

**People:**

Who can be intentionally living on mission amidst our current situation? (neighbors, coworkers, or a specific demographic in Columbia)

**Plan:**

Who is one person you can share the gospel with this week? How can that be done under the current constraints? Spend some time praying for these opportunities.

How can we be intentional in times like this about sharing the gospel?

**Pray:**

Pray for God to help us love him above all else that we may join him boldly in his mission to redeem the world. Pray for those around us that we need to share this with or invite in.