

## Getting Practical:

Christians, We live as Kingdom of God people.

Many times we enjoy talking about the birth and death of Jesus Christ. However, I think we many times gloss over the life and ministry of Jesus. Jesus didn't only come to be born and die. He also came to this earth to show us how to live. He fulfilled and redefined what following God meant for His followers. Since you've just studied the Sermon on the Mount, you can see some of this redefinition. Jesus ushers in the new way of living within the already-not-yet Kingdom of God. At Evergreen, we believe that we are people gathered by God within this Kingdom, on mission within it. Come join us!

### How can we live like Jesus in response to grace?

- On a regular basis, stop and analyze the things that are important to us...ask the hard questions, Why are we spending "x" time on something? Why did/do I spend "x" finances on something? Where is my treasure at?
- Analyze how we are using the resources that God has given us to benefit the world around us...time, talents, finances, etc.
- Look for opportunities each day to bring Shalom (completeness/peace/etc to your family, friends, and neighborhoods. Be a light and be the salt, as Jesus would say.
- Study the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7 and discuss with other believers what Jesus' Kingdom looks like. Gather other believers together in a missional/intentional group. We aren't called to figure this out by ourselves... in fact, you won't.

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## Don't Miss

- The Four Corners Offering during July is for Jehovah-Jireh Ministries.
- Don't wait till next week to discuss with others how you can tangibly bring Shalom to the world.

## "Herod"



EverGreen  
Ministries  
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Message Notes:

## *Explore the Story, Discover Your Life* *A Study for Small Groups and Individuals*

### Remembering – “Herod”

- Look at your message notes. What part of the message made you wonder, want to know more, held particular meaning for your life, or just caught your attention?

### Being Shaped by the Text: Contrasted Kingdoms

We see two Kingdoms being presented within the Text. One is the “Kingdom of Man” and the other is the “Kingdom of God.” Herod is possibly the greatest example we have of someone living within the “Kingdom of Man.” Jesus is obviously the greatest example of living within the “Kingdom of God.” These two Kingdoms collide when Jesus arrives on the scene.

### More information on Herod “the Great”...

**EXPLORE!**

- He loved prestige = Greatest architect the world has ever known.
- He loved power = Killed many of his family, even his own wife because he felt threatened by them.
- He loved recognition = Had an affinity for Roman culture. He loved Rome and wanted to make them proud of him at any cost to the people of Israel.
- He loved to take = He killed hundreds upon thousands of people on behalf of his building projects and alliance with Rome.
- Read Matt 2:1-18
  - Herod is obsessed with himself

### Two Kingdoms...

- In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus contrasts one Kingdom that the people are currently living in (Man) versus another type of Kingdom to live in (God’s). Jesus comes and shows us a different way to live.

## What does this other Kingdom look like?

### Read Matthew 5:1-16

- Look at each item we are “blessed” for. All of these are opposite of the way we would normally think...in what ways are they opposite of the “Kingdom of Man?”
- In v13-16, what message is Jesus trying to convey to his audience about the following things, Discuss each example given and why Jesus may have used them: Salt, City, Light

### Read Matthew 5:43-48

- “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” Who are our enemies? What are we doing to love them? What would/does this look like – Give tangible examples.

### Read Matthew 6:1-4

- Even our “good deeds” can be an act of disgrace. Why does Jesus find it so important for us to give in secret? What does this say about humility?

### Read Matthew 6:25-34

- What does this text say about why we shouldn’t worry?
- When we worry about life, how are we missing the entire point of God’s story?

### Read Matthew 6:19-24

- What treasures have we been storing up here on earth? What masters are in our lives other than God? Family, Friends, Sports, Finances, etc...Give examples

**\*The Kingdom of Man says, “I am God, and I take whatever I can,” but the Kingdom of God says, “In all things, I choose love.” It is a radical movement being presented by Jesus.**