

What Is Wrong With The World?

A dark story in dark times:

Matthew 8:28-34

Note: It is impossible to get a story more **UNGODLY** and **EVIL** than this in **JEWISH** culture.

Matthew's answer that everyone needs to understand:

Matthew 8-9, James 1:19-20, Ephesians 4:26, Proverbs 29:11, Romans 12:17-21

There is one God over all creation who has incomprehensible **POWER** and **AUTHORITY**.

This God comes wrapped in unimaginable **GRACE** and **MERCY**.

His purpose is to **FORGIVE SINS** and **FREE PEOPLE** from darkness.



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LIFE GROUPS

DISCUSSION GUIDE

These questions are designed to help groups discuss the weekend teaching while building relationships with each other and applying God's Word to our lives.

September 14, 2025

WARM UP



Your first meeting is designed for getting acquainted, connecting and enjoying a meal together, and discussing how to make your Life Group meetings great! The questions have been shortened this week to allow ample time for this.

Each week, "Warm Up" questions help us break the ice, get to know each other, get the conversation started, and/or share our initial impressions from the weekend's message.

1. What was a highlight of your summer?
2. What are some reasons you're in a Life Group, and what are you looking forward to in group this quarter?

KNOW IT



Each week, "Know It" questions help us understand or further unpack the Scripture from the message.

Chris explained this weekend how Matthew is writing this entire chapter with a purpose in mind. Looking back on all the stories in Matthew 8, we see Jesus interacting with a leper, a soldier, Peter's mother-in-law, teachers of the law, His disciples, and the demon possessed. How would you put in your own words the purpose Matthew is trying to convey in chapter 8?

SHARE IT



Each week, “Share It” questions help us reflect and share our personal life experiences about the topic at hand, considering how it works or has worked out in our lives.

If you’ve been following along in our series in the book of Matthew throughout the summer, we’ve been walking through Matthew’s story of how Jesus changed his life and those He encountered. If you feel comfortable sharing, when did Jesus become more than just a name to you?

LIVE IT



Each week, “Live It” questions help us think through how we can apply the topic or put it into action in our lives.

We’ve been told multiple times already in this series how Matthew shared Jesus with his friends, simply known as the “tax collectors and sinners.” When Jesus changes our lives, it often overflows to those around us. What relationships in your life (family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, etc.) have been impacted by that change—or what relationships do you hope will be?

THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God’s Word (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25). Here’s how it will happen:

SHARE

Each week, we’ll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first, this sharing will include planned “sharing questions.” After the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

STUDY

Each week, we’ll study a section from God’s Word that relates to the previous weekend’s sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.

SUPPORT

Each week, we’ll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms, such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another, and meeting real needs.

SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16). Throughout the quarter, we hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve and make a difference in God’s Kingdom.