



Sermon Discussion Guide
Backstory: A Life of Freedom
Sunday, August 15, 2021
Based on Pastor Matt's Message

Introduction

We're continuing in a series called *Backstory*. In this series we're looking at stories of Jesus in which we could all use a little bit more backstory to better understand what we're reading. In this second lesson, we learn that we can find a life of freedom in Jesus.

To watch this week's sermon before your group discussion, go to www.journeyoffaith.com/messages

Share Your Story

1. What's your past experience been like with Christians who talk about God's "laws, rules, etc."? For example, has it been more negative/positive? Or, has your past experience prompted you to draw closer to God or farther away from Him?

Hear God's Story

2. In the sermon we explored the context of what Jesus said in Matthew 5:17 during His "Sermon on the Mount" - both the biblical context and the context of it before the Bible was even written. What's one of your takeaways from the sermon that helps give you a new or fresh perspective on what God wants from you?
3. How would you explain the correlation of Matthew 5:17 with 11:28-30 to someone?
 - a. Next, how does this impact your own relationship with God?
4. The first challenge in the sermon was to find one area in your relationship with God this week that's become more about you than God. Can you identify one yet? If so, what's it for you?
5. The second challenge in the sermon was to find one longing God gave you to draw you closer to Him, that you're instead trying to fill in unhealthy ways. What are your thoughts on this?

Pray

6. Spend a few minutes in prayer as a group praying for what we've discussed, being sure to give God praise in addition to bringing your requests to Him.

For questions about this curriculum, contact Pastor Matthew Jensen at matthew.jensen@journeyoffaith.com